

The Eagle



February, 2018

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ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

a reconciling in Christ congregation
330 Ferry Street
Easton, PA 18042

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PASTOR'S DESK



We are coming up quickly on the church season of Lent. It is 40 days long and begins on Ash Wednesday. This year, Ash Wednesday may be overshadowed by Valentine's Day because they share the same date! Valentine's Day is often used as a day to share thoughts of love for those friends and family closest to us. There are many definitions of love and many different ways love is portrayed. This February 14th think about the love God has for us and the love shown to God from us!

Lent gives us a time to pause and reflect on the love of God. Reflect on the work God is doing in our lives and what God is doing for the world even through us! Our lives can show purpose and strive towards what God has in mind. The question is continuous, what is it God wants of us and what is it God is calling us to be and to do? Lent is a time to reflect on these questions.

Besides love month, this February, the winter Olympics begin again. Images of sports and athletic training will fill our news. The Apostle Paul was very aware of sports games going on in his lifetime and wrote words hoping people could relate to the sports images. Paul writes in 1 Corinthians 9:24-27 describing the quest to win the race. He continues that to win the race means to live the Christian faith. Lent is a time to pause and reflect on our Christian lives and ask how is our 'training' going.

What can help our 'training'? Use Lent as a time of training. Lent reflections can be as simple as every day writing down something you see as a reminder of God's love in our lives. Lent reflections might be doing something nice for someone every day. Lent might include participating in Soup and Scripture on Tuesday nights to dialogue with others or reading a specific book of the Bible. It might mean creating a prayer time and space for daily meditation.

Give it a try! Let's work together to engage this Lent and 'win the race.' It is the race of doing the best and the most of what is God's will for us and for our community.

In peace, Pastor Sue

Worship Schedule

February 4th Fifth Sun. after Epiphany
Color: Green
Gospel lesson-Mark 1:29-39

February 11th Transfiguration of the Lord
Color: White
Gospel lesson-Mark 9:2-9

Wed. Feb. 14th Ash Wednesday 7:00 PM
Color: Purple
Gospel lesson-Matt. 6:1-6, 16-21

February 18th First Sunday in Lent
Color: Purple
Gospel lesson-Mark 1:9-15

February 25th Second Sunday in Lent
Color: Purple
Gospel lesson-Mark 8:31-38



Transfiguration Sunday is often a celebration of light and change. The theme after epiphany is pointing to Jesus in our midst. On this Sunday, we note that Jesus is the incarnate one! We say good-bye to the word Alleluia as part of our Lenten fast from this word of praise.

Ash Wednesday begins Lent and is a call to fasting and repentance. Lent is 40 days long, not counting the Sundays.

Church Registry

Our prayers to the family.
Funeral on December 30, 2017 for
Catherine Hooper, sister to Barbara Horinko.

Congratulations for these February Wedding Anniversaries:

Gloria and George Macher 2/12
June and William Smith 2/14
Carol and David Faulkner 2/18
Shirley and James Kressler 2/24



Happy day to these	2/11 Helene Sirotnak
February Birthdays...	2/14 Logan Weber
2/1 Frank Kutch	2/16 Charles Lewis
2/7 Phyllis Schurz	2/17 MariAn Olson
2/8 Jonas Orange	2/18 Tara Fogle
2/9 Katie Hunsicker	2/28 Doris Fisher
2/9 Patsy Woodson	

NOTICE...NOTICE...NOTICE...

Various attempts are being made this year to again update our computer database of names/addresses/emails/phone/birthdates and anniversaries. Please notify us of updates and missing information. LET US KNOW if your address label is incorrect, if your name is missing from birthday/anniversary or any update for our database. You can email the pastor or the church office.

ASSISTING WITH WORSHIP IN

February 2018

Worship at 10:30 am

Gallery 12:00 pm -3:00 pm



February Altar Guild: Patsy Woodson and Dee Caul

February 4th

Acolyte: Tara Fogle
Ushers: Phyllis Schurz, Wayne Docker
Worship Assistant: Roger Ruggles
Reader: Lynn Kutch
Communion Assistants: Carolyn & Steve Moyer
Gallery: Rhemy Golab, Carol Faulkner

February 11th

Acolyte: Jonas Orange
Ushers: Shirley Kressler, Victor Unks
Worship Assistant: Steve Moyer
Reader: Monica Weiss-Nolen
Communion Assistants: Robert Smith, Sue Glenn
Gallery: Steve Remel, Curtis Olson

Wednesday, Ash Wednesday 7:00 PM (Assisting to Be Announced)

February 18th

Acolyte: Logan Weber
Ushers: Robert Black, Jacob Ruggles
Worship Assistant: Jim Heck
Reader: Ian Heck
Communion Assistants: Barb & Les McCoy
Gallery: MariAn Olson, Ilsa Von Lang

February 25th

Acolyte: Aaron Howey
Ushers: Patsy Woodson, Loretta Heck
Worship Assistant: Christopher Orem
Reader: Victor Unks
Communion Assistants: Robert Smith, Roger Ruggles
Gallery: Pamalee LaDuca, Joseph LaDuca

Please, if you cannot make it, try to get a sub. If you can't, contact the church office.

FELLOWSHIP HOUR after Church

Most Sundays following worship the gathering continues with fellowship time in the Gallery. This is an opportunity for members and visitors to share a moment of conversation while sharing in some finger food and drink. Members of St. John's are encouraged that if you recognize a visitor sitting in a pew area be sure to extend an invitation to join in the fellowship.

Are you aware that every month a committee at St. John's is responsible to arrange for setting up, cleaning up and providing finger food and drink. The committee members take on the responsibility or talk with a member of the congregation to be host/hostess for a specific Sunday in their month. If you would like to host, simply ask!

Join the Fellowship Hour both as a participant and as a host/hostess. Hosts in February-Fine Arts Committee on the 11th, 18th (other Sundays Events mean no fellowship needed)
Hosts in March-Property Committee on the 11th, 18th.

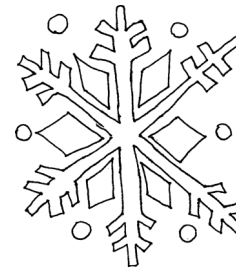
Time for a fellowship event!



On February 25th after church, get ready for the annual SOUL FOOD lunch. One of the most popular meals at St. John's, held after church!

Look on the bulletin board for what you can bring, take your tag for corn bread, black eyed peas, etc. and come and share in fellowship on February 25th. Membership Committee will supply the fried chicken.

EXPECTING SNOW?



One never knows, but if it snows on a Sunday, the Worship at St. John's will not be cancelled. If you can walk, join us. If you do not feel safe driving, stay home and join us with your prayers knowing we are still worshipping and praising God together.

IN THE GALLERY...

A trivia question:

Do you know that there is a work of art in St. John's Lutheran Church that would not be acceptable if it were entered into one of the gallery exhibits?

The current exhibit:

The General Slocum Disaster will remain in the gallery through the month of February. It tells the powerful story of a tragic event in our country's history. Most of the approximately 1,100 people who died on the *General Slocum* steamboat excursion in 1904 were members of St. Mark's Lutheran Church in lower Manhattan. The artist, Cindy Vojnovic, gave an informative talk at the Opening Reception. The story and photographs of this exhibit that appeared in the January 7, 2018 edition of *The Morning Call* drew the attention of people outside the Easton area, including a Lutheran church archivist and also the archivist for the Lutheran churches of the Middle Atlantic States. The Exhibit Catalog and the newspaper article will now become part of Lutheran church history.

There is a saying, "Beauty is in the eye of the beholder." This maxim is also true of art and may come to mind when you think of the current exhibit. Media, style and subjects of artworks are as varied as our likes and dislikes on the topic. Some like the "old masters" while others prefer modern art. Perhaps most of us fall somewhere between these two points of view. Some works of art are beautiful to look at – the type we would hang in our homes. Other works depict depressive scenes that we might not display on our walls, but are, nevertheless, just as meaningful. There are subjects, i.e., the human body, which might be seen as beauty to one person, but immoral to another. May we always strive to honor and glorify God through art.

Art should be like a holiday: something to give us the opportunity to see things differently and so change our point of view.

Paul Klee

For the Fine Arts Committee– MariAn Olson



February 4th

Please join us at this year's **Annual Souper Bowl of Caring** event on Sunday, **February 4 at noon**. Enjoy delicious soups and fresh bread. The symbolic meal of soup and bread demonstrates that together, we can fill the empty bowls of our neighbors in need. **Your donations benefit the Safe Harbor homeless shelter and the Philadelphia Lutheran Seminary Food Bank.** Look for the youth with the soup pots in the narthex after church on February 4th, stay for lunch and/or take some soup home with you.

The Souper Bowl of Caring began in 1990 with a simple prayer by Pastor Brad Smith of Spring Valley Presbyterian Church in Columbia, South Carolina. *"Lord, even as we enjoy the Super Bowl football game, help us be mindful of those who are without a bowl of soup to eat."*

Rico Relief

To raise money to help Puerto Rico, we planned two events. One was a brunch in January. The other is in February.



Why stay inside in February? Come to the festival on Shrove Tuesday (also known as Mardi Gras) February 13, 2018, 6:30—8:00 PM. Includes deserts, games, fun for the entire family! Please invite your friends and mark you calendars!

From the Outreach Committee

Take this list with you shopping!

Highlighted items for February to bring and place in the narthex gathering baskets:

- Rice, any type *for ProJeCt food pantry*
- Low sodium soups and stews *for ProJeCt food pantry*
- Jelly, preserves, canned vegetables *for ProJeCt food pantry*

- Sugar, pancake mix/syrup, coffee *for Safe Harbor*
- Paper products *for Safe Harbor*
- Air fresheners, tissues *for Safe Harbor*
- T-shirts (L, XL, XL) *for Safe Harbor*
- Women's/Men's underwear *for Safe Harbor*
- Duffle bags *for Safe Harbor*

- Lap robes, scarves, gloves *for Meals on Wheels*
- Toiletries, stamps, *for Meals on Wheels*

NEED FOR MARCH 16 for Back Pack Buddy Program

- Canned pasta/ravioli, mac/cheese (microwave easy)



*THANK YOU FOR FILLING THE BASKETS
IN THE CHURCH!*

Even though 2018 has just begun, we are thinking about the **Easton/Bethlehem District Ingathering** in December. We have been asked to donate **175 bars of soap and 175 washcloths**. A box is available in the narthex for donations.

*Also, please see the Thank you letter, posted in the narthex, from the Ingathering co-chairs, thanking St. John's members and friends for their support! **THANK YOU, THANK YOU, THANK YOU!***

DURING LENT

**Ash Wednesday Feb. 14 imposition of ashes
at 7:00 PM**

**Soup and Scripture Tuesdays at 6:00 PM
(Feb. 20, 27, March 6, 13, 20)
Come, share a simple meal and
Conversation centered on scripture**

**Palm Sunday on March 25 with annual
Brunch and Easter Egg Hunt**

**Maundy Thursday worship at 7:00 PM on
March 29 with Holy Communion and
stripping of the altar**

Good Friday worship at 7:00 PM

**Easter Sunday sunrise service at Scott Park
(time to be announced)**

**Easter Festival Service at 10:30 with Holy
Communion**



During Lent, Lent envelopes will be available in the narthex and in the March newsletter. Monies given in the Lent envelopes will support the ELCA Immigration and Refugee Services.

Immigration Sunday is March 18



*Care to sponsor the altar flowers in March? The following dates are available:
March 4th, March 11th, March 18th. Contact the church office.*

NEW MEMBER/BAPTISM CLASS ON FEB. 25 AT 1:00 AFTER THE SOUL FOOD LUNCH! EAT, THEN WE MEET.

Join the church – Regularly scheduled classes for New Members are held after church about once a month. The class is about an hour long and we welcome everyone.

Get baptized or have my child baptized- First, make sure to attend worship. Attend the New Member/Baptism class and when it is over, you and pastor will schedule the baptism.

Get a ride from the van to church-usually if you need a ride and the schedule allows enough time to get you, the van driver can pick you up.



In the past, these committees have met on these days. Please check with a committee chair if the scheduled day will continue in 2018.



Finance	1st Sunday after church (12:00)
Property	2nd Sunday after church
Rachel Circle	2nd Sunday after church
Membership	2nd Sunday after church* (*note new day)
Council	2nd Monday at 7:00 PM
Fine Arts	2nd Tuesday at 1:30
Outreach	3rd Sunday after church
Mutual Ministry	4th Sunday after church every other month (next in March)
Coffee/Conversation	4th Friday, 9:30 AM at RT. 248 Target-Starbucks
Spiritual Life	Contact the chair

Your CAN Help...

Please call the church office if there is any information concerning the health or other important changes within your family. If you are admitted to the hospital, the hospital **CANNOT** notify us unless you (or a family member) sign a permission sheet.

Be sure to tell the hospital that your church is St. John's Lutheran, Ferry St., Easton. There are many St. John's in the area and three St. John's Lutheran Churches with Easton addresses!

If you have a pastoral emergency during the hours when the office is closed, you can call Pastor Sue Ruggles at home, 610-253-7878.

St. John's Staff and Church Council Directory

Office contact 610-258-6119 stjohnseaston@gmail.com
E-mail stjohnseaston@gmail.com Website www.stjohnseaston.com
NOTE: This page can easily be torn out and used as a reference sheet!

STAFF

Pastor: Susan D Ruggles 610-253-7878
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ST JOHN'S COMMITTEE AND MINISTRIES Directory

Church Council:

Council President — James Heck 610-253-8680; jim@tatamyfarmbureau.com
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Treasurer — Steven Moyer 610-923-8171 (h); bbflat121@gmail.com
Financial Secretary — Jim Kressler 610-258-3789; poppopsboat@aol.com

Finance Committee Chair

Robert Smith 908-859-3706 dwilcoxsmith@gmail.com

Fine Arts Committee

MariAn Olson 610-250-6450 olsons.mc@gmail.com

Membership Committee Chair

Monica Weiss-Nolen 610-253-4949 weissML2@yahoo.com

Mutual Ministry Committee Chair

Carolyn Moyer 610-923-8171 chhmoyer@gmail.com

Outreach Committee Chair

Patsy Woodson 610-258-3783 woodsp07@gmail.com

Property Chair Committee Chair

Roger Ruggles 610-253-7878 stjohnspropertyferry@gmail.com

Spiritual Life Committee Chair

Victor Unks 610-258-9517/ 610-653-8922 ; neakie@aol.com

Rachel Circle Ministry

Dee Caul 610-252-3496 dicaul@outlook.com

Quilters

Shirley Kressler or Loretta Heck (see Kressler or Heck above)

Prayer Group

Phyllis Schurz 610-252-8337

Counters - under the supervision of the financial secretary

Altar Guild - Lois Ann Calloway

Capital Campaign for Organ Committee—TBA

From the By-Laws-Featured Committee — Outreach Committee
Is responsible for sharing the Gospel of Jesus Christ both to the membership of the congregation and to the community of the greater Easton area. It shall seek ways of reactivating inactive members. It shall seek to challenge and empower the members of the congregation to be inviting and hospitable to the unchurched and to new residents. It shall be the responsibility of this committee to study, analyze, and prepare ways to meet the needs of the poor, homeless, imprisoned and other marginalized people of the community, of educational events. The committee shall seek to communicate and cooperate with various church-and community-related organizations designed to work with the same or similar challenges.