

# The Eagle



March 2020

New Series Volume MMXX No 3, 2020

## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*a reconciling in Christ congregation*

330 Ferry Street, Easton, PA 18042

The Reverend Susan D. Ruggles, Pastor  
Matthew Kayhart, Vicar

phone: 610-258-6119

e-mail: [Admin@stjohnseaston.org](mailto:Admin@stjohnseaston.org)

website: [stjohnseaston.org](http://stjohnseaston.org)

[Sunday School 9:00am, Sunday Worship 10:30am](#)

Newsletter Submissions to:  
[Newsletter@stjohnseaston.org](mailto:Newsletter@stjohnseaston.org)

## From the Pastor

When I was around 28 years old, our family attended a Lutheran church in upstate New York. With my young son playing on the floor in the study of the church, I heard bits of history from a member of a Bible Study that included women of various ages (20-80). In my “young age” at the time, I appreciated her stories of the beginnings of the Gloria Dei mission church and the changes she had seen in the small college town.

To this day, I am thankful for the things I learned at Gloria Dei Lutheran Church and remember the voices of the Pastor (who was near retirement at the time) and the elderly member who articulated the history of the area and the church’s response over the years. She often spoke of her faith through it all.

In our congregation, there are many who were witnesses to the events of this church and there are many who recorded the history before us. The Soul Food Lunch in February included a brief history celebrated for Black History Month. On March 14<sup>th</sup>, we will mark the ten-year anniversary of when the St. Peter’s Memorial Chapel was dedicated. The design for the chapel began in 2009 and \$200,000 from the sale of St. Peter’s Lutheran Church, College Hill, was used for much of the renovation to the hospitality room, nursery, chapel space, and handicap bathroom. Many of you have attended some church event in the chapel space or the improved hospitality room. We have been blessed with such a space!

When one person shares their memory of an event in our church or in the community, we are better for it. This year, we are talking about the mission of the church and reflecting on how does what we did and what we now do is God’s mission? Moving forward, we acknowledge we are rich in history and yet we live in the NOW time. We remember that Jesus said, ‘*go and baptize and teach to do everything I have told you.*’ (Matthew 28:19-20) We are not alone in our mission. For Jesus said, “*I will be with you always, even until the end of the world.*”

I take comfort in knowing the future (which often reflects the past) is set before us as members and friends of St. John’s Lutheran Church in the downtown area of Easton. We continue to figure out what God has planned for us as we embrace and learn from our past and celebrate the future. Join the voices of people with a memory and add your new passions to this church as it moves into the future.

In peace, Pastor Sue



## St. John's Lutheran Church - Quilters

The Quilters of St. John's started in the late winter of 2008 with 4 members, (2 who have since passed). Their first project was making over 58 lap quilts for the shut-ins that year. They also have completed various quilts, banners and sewing projects in the years thereafter. Some of their projects include making the Baptismal blankets to give out to the newly Baptized. Creating Shut-In gifts (this year they made Christmas "Mug-Rugs" and put together gift bags.) Shut-Ins also received placemats this year to brighten their kitchens and spirits. The quilters have made retirement quilts, and many quilts for special occasions. Next time you walk through the Narthex look up to see the quilt recognizing the Church's 275 year anniversary. There is also a quilt hanging in the Pastor's office made for her 10 year anniversary. Since Christmas is still fresh in our minds, you may have noticed that a quilted Christmas tree skirt resided under the Christmas tree. The quilters have helped the community by making pillow-cases for kids of the Family Promise program. This group is always busy with a project and always accepting new members who know how to sew and quilt. The group meets on Tuesday mornings in the Quilters Room. Any questions for the group can be asked to Shirly Kressler or Loretta Heck.

*When life throws you scraps, make a quilt . . .*

A **Community Breakfast** will be held on Saturday, March 28, at St. John's. All are invited to gather with others in our congregation and community to share a meal and conversation.

The breakfast is free.

**VOLUNTEERS** are needed . . .

More information will be available in the weekly bulletins or contact Roger Ruggles

(rugglesrog@hotmail.com)



**Lenten Soup & Scripture Schedule**  
6:00-8:00 in the **Hospitality Room.**  
**March 3rd, March 10th, March 17,**  
**March 24th and March 31st.**



### *Palm Sunday Brunch and Egg Hunt . . .*



*Please join us on April 5<sup>th</sup>, Palm Sunday, for a Brunch following Worship. Main dishes will be provided by the Membership Committee, the Congregation is asked to bring their favorite desserts to share. A Children's Easter Egg Hunt will be held following the brunch. Thank you.*  
**Linda Kalapay, Membership**

 **Maundy Thursday** Service, Thursday - April, 9th, 7:00 pm

 **Good Friday** Service, Friday - April, 10th, 7:00 pm

 **Easter Sunday** Service, Sunday - April, 12th, 10:30 am

**\*Easton Lutheran Churches will also be having Wednesday Lenten Services . . .**  
**Dates and Times will be posted in the bulletins.**



## WOMEN'S CLOTHING DRIVE



The Outreach Committee is collecting gently used women's clothing to be donated to *My Sister's Closet*.

*My Sister's Closet* is a resale boutique in Bethlehem operated by *Truth for Women*, a non-profit organization.

*Truth for Women* provides restorative care for sexually exploited women and works to increase awareness in the community. *Truth for Women* serves any woman of the community, regardless of social, economic or religious affiliation.

The clothing donated will help support their program.

Judi Kalapay of the Outreach Committee will gladly accept your donations of gently used clothing – shirts, skirts, dresses, purses, jeans, shoes, coats, etc.

**(Use the box in the Women's Lounge)**

Winter clothing is being accepted through March 1<sup>st</sup> and then Spring and Summer clothing thereafter.

If you prefer to drop off your donations at *My Sister's Closet*, and see their boutique, they are located at:

3400 Bath Pike  
Park Plaza Building, Suite 103  
Bethlehem, PA (across from Panera Bread)

Thank you for your support. **The Outreach Committee**

## Worship Schedule – March 10:30 AM

*March Altar Guild:* Lois Anne Calloway / Sue Glenn

Mar. 1 *First Sunday in Lent*  
Liturgical Color: Purple  
Acolyte: Eva Seiple  
Reading: Matthew 4:1-11  
Ushers: Loretta Heck / Bob Black  
Worship Assistant: Roger Ruggles  
Reader: Logan Weber  
Communion Assistants: Steve & Carolyn Moyer  
Gallery Attendants: Diane Coker / Carol Faulkner  
Fellowship Hour: Sunday School

Mar. 8 *Second Sunday of Lent*  
Liturgical Color: Purple  
Acolyte: Abby Cressman  
Reading: John 3:1-17  
Ushers: Jonas Orange / Victor Unks  
Worship Assistant: Chris Orem  
Reader: Bob Black  
Communion Assistants: Jim Heck / Joyce Petty  
Gallery Attendants: MariAn & Curtis Olson  
Fellowship Hour: Choir

Mar. 15 *Third Sunday of Lent*  
Liturgical Color: Purple  
Acolyte: Jordyn Ruggles  
Reading: John 4:5-42  
Ushers: Jacob Ruggles / Cliff Rose  
Worship Assistant: Jim Heck  
Reader: Larry Transue  
Communion Assistants: Chris Orem / Roger Ruggles  
Gallery Attendants: Pam & Joe LaDuca  
Fellowship Hour: Choir

Need a ride to Church?  
Shuttle Service Available . . .  
Call: Lenny Fredericks @ 484-541-6824



Mar. 22

Fourth Sunday of Lent

Liturgical Color: Purple  
Acolyte: Erin Seiple  
Reading: John 9:1-41  
Usher: Tara Fogle / Patsy Woodson  
Worship Assistant: Joyce Petty  
Reader: Wayne Docker  
Communion Assistants: Vicar Matthew Kayhart / Rob Smith  
Gallery Attendants: Linda Kalapay / Bucky Keyser  
Fellowship Hour: Choir

Mar. 29

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Liturgical Color: Purple  
Acolyte: Mia Ruggles  
Reading: John 11:1-45  
Usher: Wayne Docker / Logan Weber  
Worship Assistant: Matthew Kayhart  
Reader: Aaron Howey  
Communion Assistants: Jacob Ruggles / Barbara Horinko  
Gallery Attendants: Ruth Thomas / Ilse Von Lang  
Fellowship Hour: Choir

**A member of our congregation, Tom Neel  
will be installed as Pastor at  
St. Andrew's Lutheran Church, Easton  
on Sunday, March 15, at 3:30 p.m.**



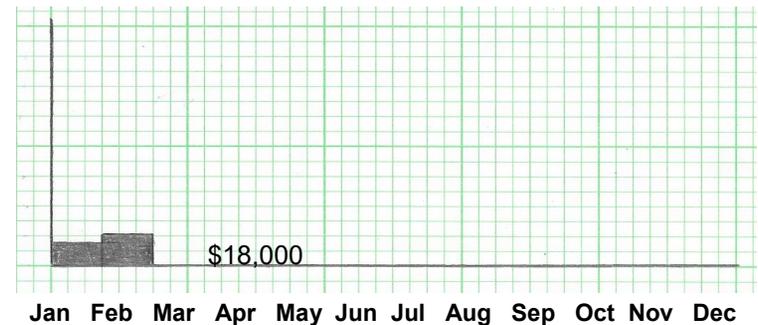
**Please remember to move your  
clocks forward 1 hour when you go  
to bed on March 7th so that you  
are on time for church on  
Sunday, March 8th.**

## ORGAN RENOVATION & CAPITAL CAMPAIGN UPDATE

If you have not taken a glance up to the balcony lately, be sure to. All of the pipes and the wind chests of the organ have been removed to the shop of Emery Brothers. As of the first week in February, they are reporting nearly 50% of the pipes have been cleaned and 25% of the re-leathering has been completed. Watch for a picture display of the work's progress.

The Capital Campaign continues. We had a wonderful start in 2019. As of the end of January 2020, \$18,544 has been contributed. Keep in mind, we started the Campaign needing \$50,000, to reach the cost of \$131,000. When we signed the contract the price for the project rose to \$143,000. Just a reminder: If you made a yearly pledge over five years, don't forget this year's contribution. If you did not make a pledge but contributed last year, hopefully you can see your way to contribute again this year. If you have not yet contributed, perhaps this is the time. Together we will meet our goal.

Steven Moyer, Treasurer



## COUNTERS NEED YOUR HELP

Weekly our Counting Teams count the offerings received. As a Congregation we have many ways for your offering to be used. When you list the way to share your offering on the envelope, please help the Counters by also listing the dollar amount for each sharing.

<b>Example:</b>	<b><u>Not Helpful</u></b>	<b><u>Helpful</u></b>	
	General Fund	General Fund	\$50.
	Flowers	Flowers	\$30.
	World Hunger	Word Hunger	\$10.
	<u>Organ Renovation</u>	<u>Organ Renovation</u>	<u>\$10.</u>
	Total: \$100.	Total	\$100

Thank you for your consideration.

The Finance Committee

**The Gallery at St. John's**  
*Art for your Appreciation and Purchase*

**ARTISTS WITHOUT WALLS**

The fifth annual *Artists Without Walls* will open on Sunday, March 1, at 12 pm. Nine members of ACE (Arts Community of Easton) who do not have studios of their own will each have a designated space. The variety of artwork will include oils, acrylics, watercolors, mixed media, jewelry, miniatures, ceramics and photography.

**SMALL WORKS SHOW:**

In conjunction with the AWW show, the gallery will dedicate one wall to the annual ACE *Small Works Show* in which all artwork will be no larger than 9 x 12 inches. Maryann Riker will curate the small works exhibit.

**MUSIC IN THE GALLERY** coming in April:

Mark your calendars now for this event that has been held in the gallery annually for almost twenty years. The date is Sunday, April 5 at 1 pm. Award-winning Boston singer/ songwriter/ storyteller **Terry Kitchen** and New Jersey folksinger **Mara Levine** will be performing their unique brand of folk music in the gallery. Terry is an Easton native and a son of this congregation. His mother, Carolyn Pokrivchak, helped to establish The Gallery at St. John's. [terrykitchenmaralevine.com](http://terrykitchenmaralevine.com)

**NOTE:**

On the table near the elevator pick up a copy of *THE IRREGULAR* and read a story about BRIAN'S DOTS, the February gallery exhibit.

**Just a reminder— In case of inclement weather . . .  
Church 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 worshiping and  
praising God together.**



**Outreach Committee**  
**March Benevolence**

**Next time you are shopping,  
pick up an item for one of the  
programs we support!**

**Back Pack Buddies** (Canned Pasta / Ravioli, individual sizes or large cans. Pop-Top's preferred.)

**Family Connection** (New packaged socks, and underwear for adults and children.)

**Meals on Wheels** (Paper napkins & ballpoint pens)

**Project Food Pantry** (Rice, Instant Potatoes, Hamburger Helper, Condiments, Low Sodium Soups / Stews, Jam & Jellies, Canned Vegetables, Lunchbox sized items, Personal Care Items.

**Safe Harbor** (Sugar, Pancake Mix / Syrup, Ice Tea Mix, Paper Cups, Paper Napkins, Paper Plates, Paper Towels, Plastic Silverware, Air Freshener Sprays, Laundry Detergent, Tissues, Plastic Grocery Bags, Backpacks, Duffle Bags, Men's T-Shirts, White Copy Paper)

*As always,  
Outreach Thanks you for  
your support of these  
programs.*



**BIRTHDAYS  
& Anniversaries**

**March Birthdays . . .**

- 3/4—Lee Wisner—Greger
- 3/5—Shawn Fink
- 3/6—Ian Heck
- 3/7—Amelia Fink
- 3/10—Daniel Cressman
- 3/17—Stefanie Weber
- 3/18—Jeanette Wilkins
- 3/22—Mike Thompson
- 3/27—Mia Ruggles
- 3/28—Steve Moyer
- 3/30—Kevin Sirotnak

**March Anniversaries. . .**

- 3/3—John & Sharon Fritchman
- 3/28—Julia & Charles Cortright

(\*If you were missed, please contact the church office.)

**Please sign up for  
Altar Flowers . . .  
March dates below  
are open  
3/15, 3/29,  
(and all of April)**



**435 cans were collected for the “NFL Can Football Challenge”. The cans were donated to the Project Food Pantry.**

**“Souper Bowl” of Caring Sunday. Thank you!**

Sincere thanks to all who helped make the “Souper Bowl” of Caring Sunday a success. Through your generosity and support, \$469.00 was raised, which will be split between Safe Harbor, Easton, and The United Lutheran Seminary’s Food Bank.

Also, thank you to all who made soup, and thank you to Pearly Baker’s Ale House, and 3<sup>rd</sup> & Ferry Fish Market for their donations.

**Benevolence for Lent  
ELCA Immigration and Refugee Services**



**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America**  
God's work. Our hands.

We are a church that does God’s work in the world and in local communities pursuing justice, peace and human dignity for and with all people.

In partnership with congregations and Lutheran social ministry organizations, **Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service** has welcomed more than 379,000 refugees to the United States since 1939. This ongoing partnership and work is driven by God’s love for all people and a vision for congregations to be welcoming and generous centers for mission and ministry.

The work of the ELCA through Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service includes responding to people caught in conflict and facing persecution, advocating for their needs and interests, helping people access resources for basic human needs, working with foster care programs for minors, legal assistance, developing new and innovative service programs and partnerships, and much more.

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

Thank you, The Outreach Committee



**Interested in becoming a member? Know someone who is looking to Affirm their Baptism? Please join us . . .  
March 15, 9:00 am in the Chapel.**

## Staff Directory:

**St. John's Office Phone:** 610-258-6119  
**Office Hours:** Monday—Friday 9:00 am-2:00 pm

Staff	E-Mail
Pastor - Susan Ruggles	Pastor@stjohnseaston.org
Vicar - Matthew Kayhart	Vicar@stjohnseaston.org
Office / Admin. - Melissa Dean	Admin@stjohnseaston.org
Property Manager - Tyler VanAllen	Property@stjohnseaston.org
Director of Music - Jessica Madow	Music@stjohnseaston.org
Sexton - Michelle Fritzo	Sexton@stjohnseaston.org
Newsletter	Newsletter@stjohnseaston.org

\*Note - Alison Fink (Nursery) and Lenny Fredericks (Van Driver) can be reached through the church office.

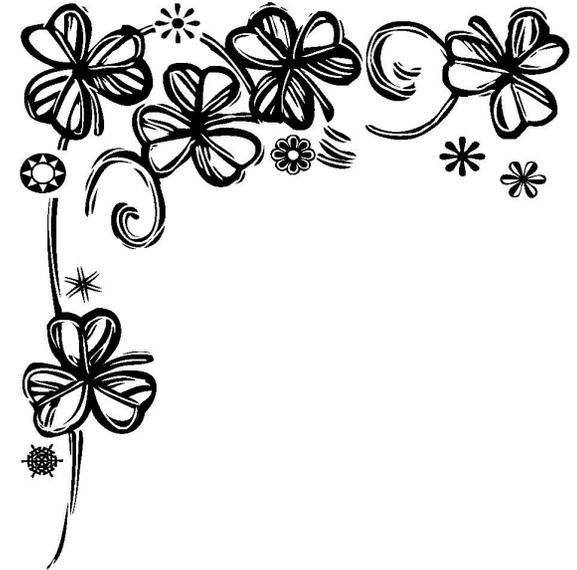
Note: The Church Newsletter and Calendar are available online for your viewing @ [WWW.STJOHNSEASTON.ORG](http://WWW.STJOHNSEASTON.ORG)  
 If you would like to discontinue your paper copy delivery, please contact the church office.  
 (610-258-6119)

### Synod News:

If you would like to read the Synod News. Please find it online @:

[www.nepasynod.org/publications/synod-news/](http://www.nepasynod.org/publications/synod-news/).

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