

ST. PETER'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
4897 Old Oneida Road  
Verona, NY 13478

Worship Services:  
Sunday 9 & 11:15 am  
Sunday School 10:15 am

"Forward Service Requested"  
Time Dated Material

U.S. Postage Paid

Non-Profit

Permit #2

Verona, NY 13478



# **THE CHURCH CHATTER**

## **April, 2018**

St. Peter's Lutheran  
Church, Verona, NY

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church**  
**4897 Old Oneida Road**  
**Verona, NY 13478 315-363-5211**  
**Pastor Katie Yahns**

**www.stpetersverona.org**

**[pastor@stpetersverona.org](mailto:pastor@stpetersverona.org) [office@stpetersverona.org](mailto:office@stpetersverona.org)**

***(Our Mission is to provide spiritual growth through  
worship, learning, fellowship and service in the name of the Lord.)***

**Worship Services**

**Sunday 9:00 and 11:15 am, Sunday School 10:15 am**

**Hymn Sing the 1st Wednesday of each month.**

**Staff**

Rev. Katie Yahns, Pastor  
Kathy Piemonte, Church Administrator  
Marie Sayles, Sexton  
Anthony Dangler and Scott Stewart, Musicians  
Anthony Dangler, Choir Director  
Betty Browell, Christian Education Coordinator  
Linda Hartman, Nursery School Director

**Deacons**

Janet Fiacco	315-361-4443	Deacon for Worship, Youth, and Visitation
Kathy Haldenwang	315-336-4698	Deacon for Worship, Visitation, and Education
Shirley Netzbund	315-334-2279	Deacon for Prayer, Caring Outreach, and Mission Outreach
Deb Rafte	315-264-3589	Deacon for Mission Outreach, Worship, and Youth
Nan Richard	315-337-7230	Deacon for Worship, Mission Outreach, and Visitation

*St. Peter's deacons are people who have completed a course of theological training and are commissioned to perform specific tasks within our congregation's pastoral ministry. If you feel God is calling you to this type of service, please see Pastor Katie or any one of the deacons.*

**Church Council Officers**

President:	Lillian White	315-363-3749
Vice President:	Jeanette Burke	315-361-1134
Secretary:	Julie Steele	315-280-4100
Treasurer:	Sherri Brown	315-363-4552
Financial Secretary:	Paula Bishop	315-363-8016

**Church Council Members**

Jeanette Burke	315-361-1134	Lance Comfort	315-225-2338
Patrick Gerwig	315-271-9478	MaryAnn Hilts	315-336-9174
Ellen Masi	315-256-5024	Howard Regner	315-762-8353
Jennifer Rossi	315-366-3462	Lisa Sandefer	315-337-0534
Sandy Spies	315-363-4523	Julie Steele	315-280-4100
Lillian White	315-363-3749		



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### **From the Pastor: Resurrection Foolishness**

*[Paul writes:] "For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God. For it is written, "I will destroy the wisdom of the wise, and the discernment of the discerning I will thwart." Where is the one who is wise? Where is the scribe? Where is the debater of this age? Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world? For since, in the wisdom of God, the world did not know God through wisdom, God decided, through the foolishness of our proclamation, to save those who believe. For Jews demand signs and Greeks desire wisdom, but we proclaim Christ crucified, a stumbling block to Jews and foolishness to Gentiles, but to those who are called, both Jews and Greeks, Christ the power of God and the wisdom of God. For God's foolishness is wiser than human wisdom, and God's weakness is stronger than human strength. " 1 Corinthians 1:18-25*

Dear friends in Christ,

Christ is risen! He is risen indeed! Alleluia! We have landed safely in the season of Easter, and boy does it feel good to finally be singing "alleluia" again!

As we began the season of Easter on April Fool's Day (a happy coincidence), I thought it might be especially appropriate to hear in worship that day the 1 Corinthians reading quoted above, which we had heard just a few weeks earlier in Lent. April Fool's Day makes one think of pranks and practical jokes, which are touchy because nobody likes to feel like a fool. However, here we have Scripture speaking about God's wisdom in sending a humble, crucified Messiah instead of a strong, mighty king. This is something the world deems foolishness, but of course God got (and is still getting) the last laugh.

Because we still see this pattern playing out today. We continue to look for strong figureheads to keep us safe, defend us from invaders, and give us everything we want. We even try to make God over in that image time and time again. And yet God continues to give us not the Savior we want, but the Savior we need. A Savior who asks us to risk our comfort level and our security for the sake of the gospel. A Savior who always draws the circle wider, not tighter and smaller. A Savior who is with us through the depth of our suffering, not just to get us out of it, but to help us find meaning in it and take comfort knowing we are not alone.

This is counter-intuitive to the rest of the world. I suppose it seems "nice" even if it doesn't seem powerful or effective (an assumption often made about Christians as well). And yet death on a cross—the very thing that looked like defeat—turned out to be the way Jesus came to victory. This was the way he ascended to his throne and prepared to fill all things and be with all people who needed him, everywhere.

This is really a hard thing for us to wrap our brains around in real life. I am thinking of it like this: We can't "win" or "plan" or "fight" our way to Jesus. All we can do is show up and be WITH Jesus, praying for the strength to follow him through thick and thin. I hate to create a false battle between our heads and our hearts, but it's almost as though we can't rely on our brains because they too easily fall into the logic and the patterns of the world. Our hearts, fickle though they may be, can beat with the same rhythm as Christ's, and since our hearts already defy worldly wisdom, they are less likely to fall prey to it.

After the resurrection, the disciples found themselves asked to do other things that seemed foolish to them at the time—or foolish to others—but later proved to be truly wise ways to set the power of resurrection free in the world. On Easter morning, Mary Magdalene and Peter and the beloved disciple were our guiding points in the gospel reading as they peered into the tomb and Mary mistook Jesus for the gardener (an honest mistake, really). As we hear more stories about the risen Jesus through the season of Easter, Thomas, Cleopas and his companion, Philip, and Peter (again) will be challenged to believe what they have seen and act accordingly.

Everything about our approach to life changes in the light of Easter. The "foolishness" of the resurrection creates a sense of "why not?" that allows freedom, playfulness, a willingness to try new things, and freedom from the way things have been in the past. While it does bring changes and challenges that can be difficult, they come from a place of joy, that moment of realization on Sunday morning that Christ was risen.

I wish each of you a little bit of resurrection "foolishness" in your life this Easter!

Together in Christ,  
Pastor Katie Yahns

## **Council Corner**

Council Corner is off t his month—but remember Council minutes for any meeting are available by request.

## **Financial Secretary Report**

The Financial Secretary's Report will be up and current next month. Thank you for your patience.

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## **HAPPY EASTER!**

Dear Pastor Katie and Congregation,

I just wanted to wish you all a very Happy Easter and to remind you that you are all in my prayers every day. I pray hard every day and I try to take people's prayer requests in here daily. I do my best to infect everyone I come across with the Spirit of Christ. I really have my work cut out for me in here, but I never stop trying. I continue to grow my faith and I remain an extremely positive person and steward of our Lord. It makes me feel absolutely wonderful when I am able to give good spiritual advice and make a difference in someone's life. I would not be able to keep on keepin' on the way I do without Jesus and my family at St. Peter's in my life. Thank you for all of your love and prayers and support.

Jesus gave us the ultimate gift for Easter and we owe all that is good now and forever after to our Lord. I can't wait to rejoice inside St. Peter's wonderful walls when I return to be with you all.

Happy Easter!

And love, peace, prayers, and blessings from Christopher Burke

*Please Note: Christopher is currently at Midstate Correctional Facility. If you are interested in writing to him, please see Kathy in the office.*

## **Blessing Box Officially Open!**

The Boy Scouts have constructed a Blessing Box (also known as a “Little Free Pantry”) for installation at the Verona Fire Department. **What is a Blessing Box? It's a small box on a post with a door and shelves that empowers the community to directly help people in need.** The idea is that members of the community leave something inside—food items, toiletries, even school supplies. Anybody who needs it can come and take it at any time. It can be summed up with the phrase **“Give what you can—take what you need.”**

So! What can you do to help make the Blessing Box a success?

**Spread the word** that it exists by posting a flyer (found on the Welcome Table) in the community, or taking some of the smaller sheets with Blessing Box info to hand out as needed.

**Donate appropriate items in the box** as you are able. In freezing temperatures, the contents could include ramen noodles, granola bars, paper products, hygiene products, and similar items. As we move into non-freezing temperatures, cans and bottles that can withstand temperature changes are OK too.

**Check on the box** to make sure nothing dangerous, expired or inappropriate is in there, and if there is, take it out and throw it away (or give to the food pantry if that's the right place for it). The various churches of Verona will be taking turns checking on the box too, but volunteers are still welcome.

The Blessing Box is a cooperative effort of the Verona churches, Boy Scout Troop 25 Verona, and the Verona Fire Department. Thank you to all parties for making the box a success. For more info, please contact Pastor Katie or any member of the Community Relations Team (Paula Bishop, Marie Sayles, Linda Rogowski, or Deb Rafte). For more information about the concept itself, visit [littlefreepantry.org](http://littlefreepantry.org).

## **What's On Tap for Worship**

from the Worship and Music Team

To mark the different seasons of the church year, we have made plans to use some of the liturgical settings we already know this spring and summer, in addition to learning a new one.

On Easter Sunday, April 1, we marked the change of season by changing to **Setting 4** and returning to “This is the feast” for the Hymn of Praise. This was Setting 2 in the “old green book” and will be a familiar tune and words for many.

After the season of Easter concludes, we'll shift on Sunday, May 27 to use **Setting 3** for the first portion of the Season after Pentecost. This was Setting 1 in the green book and will also be familiar to many. More favorite settings will be returning during the summer months.

While 11:15 doesn't have a liturgical “setting” so to speak, the Scripture Song and prayer texts will continue shifting to mark the various seasons. For Easter we'll use one of our favorite Alleluias to celebrate singing the “song of the angels” again!

## **Upcoming 10:00 am Blended Worship Opportunities:**

**Sunday, July 1, 2018** (Sunday nearest Fourth of July)

**Sunday, September 2, 2018** (Sunday before Labor Day)

**Sunday, October 28, 2018** (Reformation Sunday)

**Sunday, December 16, 2018???** (Children's Christmas Pageant)

**Sunday, December 30, 2018** (Sunday after Christmas Day)

**Sunday, April 14, 2019** (Palm Sunday)

## **Remembering Our Past—Mothers and Fathers of the Church**

To help remember our connections with prior generations, you are invited to bring your own photos of St. Peter's "church mothers" on Mothers' Day, May 13, and St. Peter's "church fathers" on Fathers' Day, June 17. These can be your mother and/or father, or someone from St. Peter's who was like a mother or father to you in some way.

To prepare, find the photos you would like to bring and write down the person's name and date of birth (as well as date of death if you wish, plus any other pertinent information) on a piece of paper. Bring the "mothers" to church May 13 and the "fathers" June 17. We'll lay the photos and vital statistics out on a table in the narthex to create a display not only of mothers and fathers, but also of role models of faith, and to give thanks for their life among us.

## **Save the Date—Coming this Spring and Beyond**

Wednesday, April 4	Hymn Sing 7:00 pm
Sunday, April 8	Come Fly With Us (kite flying) 10:15 am
Sunday, April 15	VACC Progressive Dinner 4:00 pm (begins at Verona Presbyterian)
Saturday, April 28	Spring Conference Assembly 9:00 am
	History of Lutherans in the Mohawk Valley, 2:00 pm at Zion
Sunday, May 20	Day of Pentecost / Global Companion Synod Sunday
	Ice Cream Sundae Fundraiser for Youth Gathering 10:15 am
Sunday, June 3-Tuesday, June 5	Synod Assembly in Rochester
Sunday, June 10	Graduate Recognition Sunday

## **Learning a New Language—Families Together**

from Deb Rafté

This program teaching English to refugees and their families is still going strong for the spring. We meet on Fridays from 9-12 at St. Stephen Lutheran Church in Syracuse. This is the same program that ran in the fall of 2017. We have SU students and community people that volunteer through the STEP Center to make this program happen. We can always use help, so please think about this mission opportunity.

I (Deb) will be taking any clothes that you may not need to help support the needs of the people in Syracuse. We can use both child and adult clothing. I can pick these up at church if you let me know. The program runs through Friday, April 13, 2018 (although it may be extended due to snow cancellations in the winter). If anyone would like to make a donation of snack or supplies, please let me know (315-264-3589). We can always use help and welcome visitors!



**April Mission of the Month:** ...is ELCA Good Gifts which provides animals through ELCA World Hunger to help families around the world improve their lives.

**Just one dairy cow can produce as many as 3 gallons of milk each day.** Nutritious, calcium-packed milk from a cow helps ensure that children grow up healthy and strong. Extra milk can also be used to make cheese, yogurt, butter and other dairy products to eat and sell for a steady source of income. With food and funds – not to mention fertilizer for fields – a cow is a total package for a family in need. One Cow is \$500.

Celebrate God's love in Jesus Christ by sharing that love with others.



## ***Last Call: From Serving Drinks to Serving Jesus***

by Jerry Hershops

### **Book review written by Kathy Haldenwang**

*Last Call: From Serving Drinks to Serving Jesus* by Jerry Hershops was published by Westminster John Knox Press in 2015. It is a quick read of only 163 pages. If you are interested, maybe Pastor Katie would loan hers to you. There are two distinct parts to this book and I would recommend chapter 7 to the end (only about one third of the book) if you really aren't interested in the whole story. The first two thirds is autobiographical in nature. I found it to be interesting and it does have relevance to the last third. It tells the story of the author's struggle to become a famous standup comic. The last part explains how he started a church which has no building and serves the poor and homeless in Denver. (The same city where Nadia Bolz Weber does her ministry.)

In this time of struggling churches any new form of doing church is at least worth looking at. It doesn't mean we have to give up the standard liturgical services which many of us still love. But it does offer alternatives to that form of worship which may appeal to many others. Hershops also points out that nowhere in the Bible does it lay out the "proper" form or location for worship. It does say, however that Jesus repeatedly admonished followers to love "others", feed the poor, care for the sick, visit those imprisoned, etc. The author believes that this should be the important mission of the church rather than spending so much money on the maintenance of a seldom used building. I would recommend this book if for no other reason than to open our eyes to new possibilities and to evaluate what it is that St. Peter's is doing and might change or do better.

### **Monday Ministry Needs Help for JamFest**

Monday Ministry is an outreach to new people who come to worship at St. Peter's. Currently a loaf of bread and a letter written by Pastor Katie are delivered to guests that sign our guestbook or the pew pads. We have decided to try a different approach this year. We would like to give small jars of homemade jam. We are in need of small canning jars, lids, and anyone who would like to spend some time in the spring or summer making jam. If you have made jam before, we may be asking you to help teach others in a church jam-making event. This way we can give new visitors a jar of jam with a letter before they leave. We are also looking for a catchy phrase...something like "Try God when you are in a jam." Please see any of the Deacons with questions.

### **WANTED: Volunteers for Funeral Dinners**

Our coordinator is Betty Browell, ably assisted by Sandy Spies. Janet Zimmerman makes the calls to request dishes when they are needed. We could really use a few more volunteers both to cook or bake something and to work in the kitchen. Janet tries to rotate her requests so that nobody is asked over and over again. This ministry only works when we take turns and help each other out.

If you would like to add your name to the list of volunteers, please contact Betty Browell (315) 420-1657. Thank you!

## **Weekly Email Newsletter Now in Business!**

We hope that you love the Chatter. But let's face it...sometimes it's easy to lose your copy of the Chatter, or misplace it during the month. Sometimes it's daunting to read everything and you get behind. Well, we now have a weekly mini-newsletter that is sent out only by email, reminding you of what's coming up this week, who's serving at church the following Sunday, any major news, and any other tidbits about happenings at church.

If you are not already receiving this email weekly and would like to, please contact Pastor Katie (pastor@stpetersverona.org) to be put on the list.

## **Back by Popular Demand: Lutherans in the Mohawk Valley**

Mr. Jack Henke's research on Lutherans in the Mohawk Valley has generated such interest that he will be presenting another fuller lecture on the topic this spring (he last lectured on this as part of our cooperative Reformation lecture series). If you missed him the first time, or would like to hear more, you can catch him at Our Saviour Lutheran Church (1640 Genesee Street, Utica) on Saturday, April 28 beginning at 2:00 pm.

## **Printer For Sale**

Color inkjet Epson printer, formerly used in the office, now for sale. \$20 for the printer and \$20 for the ink cartridges. Please see Pastor Katie if you are interested.

## **Attention Graduating Seniors (and their families)**

- High school seniors: If you are a member of St. Peter's, you are eligible to apply for the Janet Grimm Memorial Scholarship this spring. Watch the mail for a letter inviting you to apply this month. If you do not receive this letter and think you should, please contact Pastor Katie.
- Families: If you are hoping to hold a graduation party at the church OR borrow tables and chairs, PLEASE call the office to reserve what you need by filling out the building use form. Weekends book quickly in the spring and summer and tables and chairs cannot be used by more than one family at a time. We need to be able to plan ahead so everyone has a fair shot at using the items. Thank you!

## **VACC Progressive Dinner—Help Feed Our Neighbors**

This fundraiser for the Verona Food Pantry will take place Sunday, April 15, 2018 beginning at 4:00 pm. Dinner will be served at Verona United Methodist Church, including ham and scalloped potatoes, salad, veggies and applesauce. First Presbyterian and Our Lady of Good Counsel will be doing appetizers and Seventh Day and Beacon Light will be doing dessert. St. Peter's will be helping with the main meal, doing salad and vegetables. Tickets are available from Deb Rafté for \$10 apiece (\$5 children). Advance ticket sales only please! Come enjoy a good home-cooked meal for a great homegrown cause in our community.

## **ALTAR GUILD VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!**

The Altar Guild needs a few more volunteers for altar preparation. Man or Woman! Help is really needed. Just one month a year and only takes 30-60 minutes to set up. Can't you give an hour a week for a month to God? Please call or talk to Sandy Spies or Marie Sayles as soon as possible.

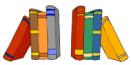
Thank you and God Bless.

## **SISTERS OF THE FAITH**

Please note that Sisters of the Faith generally meets on the first and third Thursday of the month at 6:00 pm. However, the group is checking in to decide if they are meeting. So before venturing out, please call or text either Sherri Brown at 315-264-6042 or Linda Rogowski at 315-796-5152 to see if they are meeting.



**Volunteers Needed** to mow the lawn and trim at church this summer, either on a weekly basis or monthly basis. If questions, please contact Howard Regner on his cell phone at 315-763-8353.



### **CHURCH FAITH LIBRARY**

The church Faith Library is good to go! If you have a book that you feel would be a benefit to our faith journey and would like to donate it there is a basket for that. When you borrow a book and then return it, there is a basket for that, too. Here is just a sampling of what is available: *Christ the Lord*, *All of the Women of the Bible*, *Fire Gospel*, *Great Lion of God*, *Sarah*, *Martha*, *Delilah*, *My Heart for His Glory*, *Cup of Comfort for Christmas*, *The Beginner's Guide to Intercession*, *The Desire of Ages*, *God's Solutions for Your Life* and many books by Max Lucado. There are also quite a few DVDs which will soon be organized and shelved.

### **Techies Welcome**

Do you enjoy fiddling with technology and gadgets? Are you looking for a new way to give back to the church and help out in worship? Do you prefer serving behind the scenes?

If any of these are true, you might be interested in learning how to run the sound system at church for either the 9:00 or 11:15 worship services. The upgrades to our system are being installed (new speakers and a new processor). Once everything is installed and calibrated, we could really use a few more people to help out with running the sound system during worship. John Puleo of Professional Technologies will be holding an orientation to the new system. This is a great opportunity to learn how to do this job. (Previously we have not had someone running sound at 11:15—but if we did, that would be wonderful!)

If you are interested, please let Pastor Katie know so she can set up a date and time with John that works. This might be just right for you!

## **Changes to Announcements for 9:00 am Worship**

**YOU CAN PLEASE SOME OF THE PEOPLE SOME OF THE TIME...**Some people didn't like announcements at the beginning of the service. Some people don't like the announcements at the end of the service. Some people don't like the announcements to be anywhere within the service since it seems to disrupt the flow of worship. Some people just don't like announcements at all. Some people don't read the bulletin insert and would rather hear the announcements.

Starting **April 8th** you will see a new clipboard next to the one where you write the names of people you would like included in the prayers that Sunday. It will be clearly marked : ANNOUNCEMENTS. Write your announcement on the sheet and include the name of the contact person where appropriate. The assisting deacon for that day will read all the announcements beginning at 8:55. The service will then begin at 9:00 and continue without interruption. We're going to keep working on this issue until we please most of the people most of the time!

Please note that Announcements will continue to be in the same place for the **11:15 am** worship, immediately after the gathering songs.

## **Reminder about Worship on Facebook Live**

from the Worship and Music Team

A number of you have already discovered that when weather or sickness keep you from getting to church, you can tune into our Facebook page at approximately 9:30-9:40 and hear that morning's sermon. Thank you for listening! The feedback so far has been overwhelmingly positive.

Remember, in recognition of privacy concerns, we have decided to limit the streaming of worship to the sermon only. This way we do not need to worry about copyright permissions for music or for showing children during the children's sermon.

The camera (Russ' phone) is mounted on the pole that you see in the sound booth. Russ zooms in from that location on the pulpit for the sermon. So while there is a tiny chance that the back of your head may be shown briefly on Facebook, we will not be broadcasting anybody's face.

If you have any questions or concerns, or would like to know more, please speak to Julie Steele, chair of Worship and Music, Russ Brookins, Pastor Katie, or anybody on the team.

**Are you looking to sell some real estate?** We have become aware of a woman originally from this area who is looking to move back after a brief retirement in North Carolina. Her children live in this area and her husband passed away suddenly after they moved there for retirement a few years ago. She is searching for a small home on an acre of land (or perhaps land where she could put a home). If you know of anyone who might be a good connection for this person, please let Pastor Katie know and she will pass the information along.

## Youth Corner

### **2018 Youth Gathering - Books & Ice Cream!**

As the time nears for the Youth Gathering in Houston this summer, it's also time to prepare for the youth gathering's special offering to benefit the people of Houston. The offering is called "Blast Off For Books" to lift up the need for greater literacy among kids in Houston schools.

3 in 5 Houston children lack reading readiness skills when entering kindergarten

1 in 4 Houston children do not meet minimum literacy standards at grade 3

2 in 5 Houston youth fail reading and writing exams required for graduation on their first try

1 in 5 Houston adults are functionally illiterate

Kids whose parents cannot or will not provide books in their home are at a huge disadvantage when it comes to learning reading skills. So the Youth Gathering folks will be providing a list of suggested books to bring to Houston. As part of the service component of the gathering, teens will be sorting books, taking them to book fairs throughout Houston, interacting with young kids in Houston with games to teach them reading skills, and sending them home with books.

St. Peter's is going to take part in this special offering by making this cause May's Mission of the Month. All proceeds from this mission will be used to purchase books from the ELCA Youth Gathering's Wish List on Amazon.com. The books will then be shipped directly to Faith Lutheran Church in Bellaire, Texas, who is in charge of collecting the donated books for distribution.

Meghan O'Dell and Kaylee-Ann Zimmermann will also be hosting an ice cream sundae event on Sunday, May 20 in between services as their last fundraiser before they make their journey to Houston. Hope to see everyone there!

### **Ongoing Can and Bottle Drive**

Thank you to a handful of devoted volunteers, the cans and bottles left in our shed are redeemed on a regular basis and the proceeds go into the youth account. These funds go to help our youth attend Youth Gatherings as well as give seed money for fundraisers and funds for fun activities.

**However! In order to redeem your cans and bottles, we need YOU to separate them from your other recycling and your garbage.** Thank you for taking the time to separate your cans and bottles and bring them to the shed. We appreciate your support. Those nickels really add up!



## **Get to Know the Body of Christ—by the Confirmation Class**

### **Interview of Bob Fish**

**By Caleb Decker**

Bob Fish, an active community supporter, is a member of St. Peter's Lutheran Church. He enjoys figure skating and building things. He even has built a small church in the past. Mr. Fish is retired from the NY State Tax and Finance department where he served as an auditor for approximately 30 years. Before becoming an auditor, he was a bank manager. After being retired, he worked part-time at a credit union for 5 years to stay busy. He also likes serving on the zoning board to get new things passed. Today he holds driving seminars for the elderly, about once a month. He is an active supporter of the Habitat for Humanity organization. In the past, Mr. Fish has served as a council member at St. Peter's. He has only been a member for 5 years but loves how welcoming St. Peter's is. He enjoys ushering, helping out with pancake dinners and attending Sunday worship. As you can see, Mr. Fish loves being active at church and in the community.

### **Interview of Arnold & Lorrain Hogan**

**By Carissa Klepadlo**

Mr. and Mrs. Hogan help out and help others by giving people food and helping in food banks. They are both retired and Mr. Hogan worked at Carrier. Mrs. Hogan has been a member since 1934. Their hobbies are puzzles, crafts, and sewing. For 7 years, Mrs. Hogan was a Sunday School superintendent and Mr. Hogan was on the church council. Their favorite part of church are the holidays and one thing they would change is church is a bit too long.

### **Interview of Janet Fiacco**

**By Konrad Thurston**

Janet has been a big part of this church for a long time. She was a music teacher and is now heavily involved in the choir. She also helps the church out by being a deacon, and a communion assistant or greeter when needed. When she is not at church, she loves to be outdoors gardening, hiking, and camping. She loves being a part of St. Peter's because of the wonderful people.

### **Interview of Patrick Gerwig**

**By Peter Makarchuk**

The person that I interviewed was Patrick Gerwig. In his free time, he helps his father on their family farm. The stuff that he has done in the church is being in the altar guild and participating in the church council. His day job is a teller at a bank. He has been at St. Peter's for 29 years. Something that he likes about the church is that it feels like family because people help each other.

### **Interview of Terry Fike**

**By Liesl Froschauer**

I interviewed Terry Fike for my assignment. Terry is a retired vet from the United States Air Force and New York State. Terry and his wife, Sally Fike, donate to charities and fundraisers to help people. Terry also is a lector, communion assistants, a reader and also an usher. Terry's hobbies included him doing puzzles and golf. He does these hobbies to keep him in shape and healthy. He has been doing these hobbies since he could remember. To help the church, Terry and Sally give to offering. What Terry likes best about our church is how friendly and welcoming the people are. Sally would like to have people only announce what is not in the bulletin. That is how Terry and Sally Fike are Christ's body in the world.



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

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## PRAYER VENTURES

### APRIL 2018

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*These petitions are offered as guides to prayer for the global, social and outreach ministries of the ELCA, as well as for the needs and circumstances of our neighbors, communities and world. Thank you for your continued prayers for the life and mission of this church.*

**1** *Easter Day* Christ is risen! We rejoice and ask God's Spirit to live in us and dispel our doubts, hesitations and fears and fill us with faith and amazement over God's miraculous, unconstrained love for us.

**2** The body of Christ spans every nation and all people, without partiality. Ask God to make us bold witnesses of our faith and the good news of Jesus Christ – close to home and throughout the world.

**3** Continue to pray for victims of gun violence and their families; for communities, students and those terrorized by all too familiar acts of violence across our nation, and pray for those who commit acts of violence and those who are unmoved by these tragedies. Ask God's forgiveness for our failings and the ways in which we have – knowingly or unintentionally – cultivated or supported a culture of violence, hatred, anger and fear. Pray God will guide and embolden us to do what is necessary to turn the tide of violence and build a counter-culture where people can experience God's intended peace and life abundant.

**4** Remember in prayer, especially during Arab American Heritage Month, the diverse gifts and challenges of our Arab and Middle Eastern brothers, sisters and congregations, and their unique stories and heritages that are part of a larger story that makes up the ELCA and reminds us of the rich history and tradition of Christ's church in the world.

**5** Pray for the churchwide officers, synod bishops and other elected members of the ELCA Church Council gathered for their work of providing guidance, support and leadership for the churchwide organization and the ELCA.

**6** "This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it." Look around and give thanks for all God has made, accomplished, blessed us with and is working through us – children of God, followers of Christ.

**7** We produce more than enough food in the world to feed everyone, yet 815 million people still go hungry. Thank God for the work of providing relief and ending hunger that ELCA

World Hunger is doing through ELCA congregations, global companion churches, The Lutheran World Federation and other partners like Bread for the World, Church World Service, Lutheran Immigration and Refugee Service and Lutheran World Relief.

**8** Pray God breaks thorough our walls of skepticism and confusion and touches our lives that our faith may be renewed and strengthened.

**9** *Dietrich Bonhoeffer (1906-1945)* Give thanks for bold servants of Christ, like Dietrich Bonhoeffer, whose lives are guided by their faith, exercise deliberation in their decisions and actions, and take risks for the sake of the gospel, justice, peace and humanity.

**10** Pray God will sustain, strengthen and energize ELCA synod bishops, staff and volunteers serving congregations, church leaders, special ministries and diverse communities across the United States and in the Caribbean region.

**11** Thank God for the blessings and joys of living in community, and pray for grace, patience and mutual understanding when we encounter conflicts that challenge our unity.

**12** Remember in prayer our ELCA missionaries serving in the schools of the Evangelical Church of the Augsburg Confession in Slovakia; ask God to bless and guide their work with the church in Slovakia of educating young people for service and leadership roles in the church and nation.

**13** Pray we are influenced by the Spirit to share with joy and a sense of mutual concern and responsibility our assets, possessions and financial resources with those of our faith community and our neighbors in need, that all may have what they need and thrive.

**14** Remember in prayer rostered ministers awaiting calls, that the Spirit will stir in them patience, wisdom and discernment, faith and continued enthusiasm for serving the church in new ways and places.

**15** We ask God to open our minds to Scripture and God's promises and ways, that our light will shine brightly in the world – in what we say, do and wrestle with together – as wise yet humble witnesses to the life-giving good news of Jesus Christ.

**16** Pray the workshops for church musicians, sponsored by the ELCA in partnership with the Association of Lutheran Church Musicians and Lutheran Summer Music, grow the skills, theological knowledge, creativity and leadership abilities of musicians across the United States.

**17** It's God's love for us that identifies us unambiguously as children of God – forgiven, cherished, gathered in time and time again, and given the gift of life eternal with God.

**18** Give thanks for the seminary professors and theologians of our church, and pray their faith, curiosity, hunger for learning and commitment to teaching and faith formation is sustained and inspired by the Spirit.

**19** Give thanks for the ELCA's dedication to supporting work with HIV and AIDS advocacy and education in our church and communities, as well as partnering with companions around the world accompanying and advocating for people affected by HIV and AIDS; pray for effective and accessible prevention initiatives, education, treatment, care and the training of health care providers and educators, especially in underserved regions of the world.

**20** Praise God, for the Lord is attentive, gracious, comforting and puts gladness in the hearts of the faithful.

**21** The ELCA and The Episcopal Church are committed to prayer, fasting and advocacy addressing cuts to public programs that are vital to hungry people who are living in poverty. Remember to pray for these concerns, our leaders and people in need on the 21st of each month through December 2018.

**22** *Earth Day Sunday* Praise God for the gift of creation in all it's beauty and wonder; thank God for sustaining life through Earth's abundant resources given to us and entrusted to our care, stewardship and sharing justly.

**23** ELCA outdoor ministry leaders are meeting at the LOM Executive Directors' Gathering in Tallapoosa, Ga., to explore the most relevant and important questions facing their work today. Ask God to deepen their collective wisdom and inspire them to arrive at real-world solutions and approaches to ministry with people of all ages and backgrounds.

**24** Praise God for leading us to be faithful, fearless followers and bearers of the good news in the world and for comforting and restoring us when we stumble, grow weary or feel fragile.

**25** Ask God to bless ELCA Glocal Mission Gatherings held in conjunction and partnership with synod assemblies and other ELCA events and programs in upcoming months, that participants and congregations will be further equipped for God's work in global and local realities and wherever these realities intersect in life.

**26** Remember in prayer leaders and delegates gathered for the Alaska Synod Assembly, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them for God's work in the world and growing the church.

**27** Remember in prayer leaders and delegates gathered for the Eastern Washington-Idaho and Northern Texas-Northern Louisiana synod assemblies, that the Spirit will strengthen, guide and encourage them for God's work in the world and growing the church.

**28** The ELCA Fund for Leaders supports students of promise attending one of our seven seminaries. Pray for generous support of the fund and for its work to enable more future ministers to go to seminary in response to God's call to ministry by making seminary more affordable and easing student debt.

**29** Pray we live in Christ as Christ lives in us, that our words, actions and endeavors bear abundant fruit wherever people are most in need of good news, hope and healing in our relationships, congregations, communities and world.

**30** For the lengthening days of spring and the welcome, uplifting gift of light in our lives, we give thanks and praise to God.

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*This resource may be copied and shared among members and friends of the congregations of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. Contact [info@elca.org](mailto:info@elca.org) for additional information. Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, 8765 W. Higgins Road, Chicago, IL 60631. Telephone: 800-638-3522, ext. 2458.*

# ★HAPPY★ BIRTHDAY!

## April

- 1 Jared Fiacco
- 3 Michael McElhinney
- 5 Jennie Wendt
- 7 Bryan Joanis
- 7 Ann Sharpe
- 9 Pastor Katie Yahns
- 10 William Hilts
- 14 Jerry Burke
- 15 Janet Fiacco
- 15 Patrick Gerwig
- 17 Katie Hartman
- 17 Tara Hyatt
- 19 Henry Sandefer
- 20 Jenny White
- 21 Alice Muth
- 22 Jacob Kahler
- 22 Brian Larsen
- 25 Emma Rogowski
- 27 Jim Fiacco
- 27 Emily Rossi
- 28 Tom Thurston

## May\*

- 2 Emily Hartman
- 5 Christina Todd
- 6 Deborah Joanis
- 6 Julie Steele
- 7 Martha Ano
- 8 Patricia Nestle
- 9 Christine O'Dell

(\*This is just a partial list of May)

**If you want to be included or removed from the Birthday/  
Anniversary List - please contact Kathy Piemonte at (315)  
363-5211 or email [office@stpetersverona.org](mailto:office@stpetersverona.org)**

# HAPPY ANNIVERSARY

## April

- 4 David & Kathy Haldenwang
- 9 Henry & Lisa Sandefer
- 20 Henry & Bonnie Gerwig
- 21 Jim & Janet Fiacco
- 28 Tom & Peg Dreyer

## May\*

- 4 Willard & Pat Lewis
- 8 Randy & Amy Witzigman

(\*This is just a partial list of May)

**If you want to be included or removed from the  
Birthday/Anniversary List - please contact Kathy  
Piemonte at (315) 363-5211 or email**

## Happenings Around the Area....

Helping Families  
Touching Lives



The  
Good News Center

### **Announcing a New Support Group**

The Good News Center is sponsoring a new support group: **PAL – Parents of Addicted Loved Ones**. The primary goal is to provide hope through education and support for parents dealing with addicted loved ones by offering confidential peer support. Other family members of addicted loved ones are also welcome to attend. Parents of Addicted Loved Ones (PAL) is a national organization founded in Arizona by a Licensed Independent Substance Abuse Counselor. The group will be led by Michelle Holliday, who has been trained by PAL. **Meetings are 6:30 P.M.—8:00 P.M. every other Monday here at The Good News Center, 10475 Cosby Manor Road, Utica. Upcoming meeting is March 19th** For more information contact The Good News Center at 315-735-6210, e-mail [info@thegoodnewscenter.org](mailto:info@thegoodnewscenter.org), or visit us online at [www.thegoodnewscenter.org](http://www.thegoodnewscenter.org).

### **Separated & Divorced Support Group**

**Meets every other Sunday, 5:00-6:30 pm; upcoming meetings April 8<sup>th</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup> at The Good News Center, 10475 Cosby Manor Rd., Utica.** The group meets in a warm, caring, **confidential** environment designed to help you learn skills and practical information that will guide you in rebuilding your life after your separation or divorce. Free and open to all. For more information contact Judy at 315-735-6210, [judy@thegoodnewscenter.org](mailto:judy@thegoodnewscenter.org), or visit us at [www.thegoodnewscenter.org](http://www.thegoodnewscenter.org).

### **The Third Option**

**Meets every other Sunday; upcoming meetings April 8<sup>th</sup> and April 22<sup>nd</sup>, 6:30-8:30 pm at The Good News Center, 10475 Cosby Manor Rd., Utica. WISH YOU HAD A BETTER MARRIAGE?** Learn to handle anger more constructively, resolve conflicts, and communicate better. Hear couples share how they overcame problems in their marriages. The Third Option support group for married couples. For more information and to register call 315-735-6210, [melissa@thegoodnewscenter.org](mailto:melissa@thegoodnewscenter.org) or visit us online [www.thegoodnewscenter.org](http://www.thegoodnewscenter.org).

**Parent Effectiveness Training (PET)** will be held at **The Good News Center, 10475 Cosby Manor Road, Utica on Thursdays, March 15<sup>th</sup> - May 10<sup>th</sup> from 12:00 pm-2:00 pm.** James Davis, Ed.D, LMHC will be facilitating this 8 week program that is educational and experiential to help parents build skills to more effectively communicate with their children and resolve conflicts. Space is limited, **call 315-724-5173** to learn more and reserve a seat. **Cost is \$50.00.**

**The National Day of Prayer** is an annual observance held on the first Thursday of May, inviting people of all faiths to pray for the nation. It was created in 1952 by a joint resolution of the United States Congress, and signed into law by President Harry S. Truman. The National Day of Prayer has great significance for us as a nation as it enables us to recall and to teach the way in which our founding fathers sought the wisdom of God when faced with critical decisions. This year's National Day of Prayer falls on **Thursday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>**. A local observance will take place in the form of a breakfast at **Hart's Hill Inn at 7:30 AM** on that day. **The cost is \$14 in advance and \$15 at the door.** You may purchase tickets at Big Apple Music or the Good News Center or **by calling 315-735-6210**. You may also purchase tickets online at [www.thegoodnewscenter.org](http://www.thegoodnewscenter.org).

**Help Wanted:** The Good News Center is seeking a dynamic and compassionate person to facilitate support groups. We are also seeking wait staff who would be responsible for hospitality. Interested persons should contact The Good News Center at **315-735-6210**. Volunteers are also needed to maintain gardens and landscape and others to maintain the chapel. If interested call **315-735-6210**.

## *News Around the ELCA / Upstate New York Synod*

### **An Easter Message**

from Presiding Bishop Elizabeth Eaton

It all started with such promise – the angel announcing to Mary that the child she would bear would be called Son of the Most High; the conviction of Mary that this child would be the embodiment of God’s promised justice, that the hungry would be filled with good things and the rich sent away empty; angels announcing his birth; thousands being fed; the sick healed; the dead raised.

And then, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?” It was over. The world hadn’t changed. Might still made right. How ridiculously naïve to believe that any reversal of the old order could come about. Hope is for the gullible. Looking at this broken man hanging utterly helpless, naked and broken on a cross, the powers and principalities, earthly and spiritual, death and the devil must have said, “You fool.”

This, as St. Paul reminds us, is the wisdom of the world. And the world can present plenty of hard evidence that it is right: children killing children in horrific school shootings, 60 million displaced people – all of this supported by our rebellion against God, our idolatrous claim that we are in control and the world is ours. In the face of this and all of the suffering others cause and we cause others, we, too, might cry out, “My God, my God, why have you forsaken me?”

I believe that the beginning of Psalm 22 expresses the anguish of the psalmist and the anguish of our Lord, but there is more going on here. Citing the first words of a text was, in the tradition of the time, a way of identifying an entire passage. The psalm ends this way: “All the ends of the earth shall remember and turn to the Lord; and all the families of the nations shall worship before him. ... Posterity will serve him; future generations will be told about the Lord, and proclaim his deliverance to a people yet unborn, saying that he has done it.” This is the wisdom of God. Jesus’ crucifixion is the death of our death. His innocent suffering has reconciled all of creation to God. He has done it. We stake our lives on this.

This year, Easter falls on April 1. We shall have come through the Lenten desert to the Easter garden. We shall say, “Christ is risen. He is risen indeed. Alleluia!” And we shall confess this and live this in the face of worldly wisdom that is based on death. Life wins. Love wins. And if the world wants to call us April fools, we are glad to claim that title.

### **Synod Assembly Coming Soon—Registration Now Open**

This year's Synod Assembly will gather June 3-5 in Rochester at the Rochester Riverside Convention Center to engage with the theme Shine Your Light. It will include church business, but also speakers like the Rev. Ruben Duran from the ELCA evangelism office, workshops in all things from “nuts and bolts” information for congregations to advocacy and leadership qualities. Monday's 7 pm worship will feature a Celebration of Hymns of all types as well as Bishop John Macholz presiding at Communion. Fellowship, fighting hunger, and global mission are on the schedule as well. You do not have to be an official voting member for St. Peter's to attend however much you would like (registration fee for the whole assembly is \$110). Please see Pastor Katie if you are interested!

### **Hurricane Maria: Hope for the Long Haul**

by Marcia Brown

Hurricane Maria hit Puerto Rico six months ago. Much of the island is still without power and other essentials. But immediately, San Pedro Lutheran Church began helping the storm victims. They located, coordinated, and distributed bottled water and food to 500 families in the church's neighborhood, with the

help of volunteers who sorted and packaged the deliveries. ELCA Disaster Response has brought critical relief supplies, such as food, water, formula and diapers during the days and weeks immediately following the response. Also, 125 mattresses were provided to families and individuals. Through the continued partnership of the ELCA and the Lutheran Church in Puerto Rico, 190 families/individuals are involved in case management to identify other unmet needs in communities.

Lutheran Disaster Response continues to work with LDR-PR to build their capacity to respond to this disaster. Through their partnership, a multi-year volunteer rebuild/repair program is planned. Even though the members of San Pedro Lutheran were impacted by the hurricane themselves, they are tirelessly serving their community. As one volunteer says, "We are trying to be very positive and give hope to the people."

Your donations help support the ELCA Disaster Response, and all the work being done in Puerto Rico. Thank you!

### **Draft Social Statement on Women and Justice available for review**

The ELCA Task Force on Women and Justice has released a draft of a social statement that examines the big picture of sexism and patriarchy in church and society. The task force invites you to study the document and provide feedback. Hearing your input is an essential part of the process to ensure that the draft speaks for and to ELCA members. The comment period for the draft is open until Sept. 30, 2018. The social statement is available as a download (at [www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Current-Social-Writing-Projects/Women-and-Justice/Draft](http://www.elca.org/Faith/Faith-and-Society/Current-Social-Writing-Projects/Women-and-Justice/Draft)) or you may order a print copy.

### **Draft Policy Statement on Interfaith Relations available for review**

From now until the end of June, individuals and groups across the ELCA are invited to participate in reading, reviewing and responding to the draft ELCA policy statement entitled, "A Declaration of Our Inter-Religious Commitment." The draft statement is available on the ELCA website at [www.elca.org/Faith/Ecumenical-and-Inter-Religious-Relations/Inter-Religious-Relations/Draft-Policy-Statement](http://www.elca.org/Faith/Ecumenical-and-Inter-Religious-Relations/Inter-Religious-Relations/Draft-Policy-Statement).

### **ELCA Publications Available at Church**

Curious about what churches across the ELCA are up to? The complimentary publications *Living Lutheran* and *Stories of Faith in Action* are available in the narthex, in the wall-mounted document rack. Other publications are there for the taking as well. Browse for a few minutes and see what you find. Exciting things are happening all across the church!

### **Follow us!**

Do you follow the ELCA on social media? Keep informed with church news, events, pictures and video across many platforms. We're on Facebook at [Facebook.com/Lutherans](https://www.facebook.com/Lutherans); [@ELCA on Twitter](https://twitter.com/ELCA); [@ELCA on Instagram](https://www.instagram.com/ELCA) and [YouTube.com/ELCA](https://www.youtube.com/ELCA). Also, the Upstate New York Synod is on Facebook at [facebook.com/upstatenysynod](https://www.facebook.com/upstatenysynod) and sends out a bi-weekly email newsletter called the Upstate Update (visit [upstatenysynod.org](http://upstatenysynod.org) to sign up). Join the online community of Lutherans!



### ***Don't forget the Verona Food Pantry!***

Open Tuesdays from 1 to 2:30 pm and  
Thursdays from 6 to 7:30 pm  
Located at the Verona Town Hall (water dept.  
building), 6600 Germany Road

**Donations especially needed: pasta, peanut butter,  
canned tuna fish, macaroni and cheese, soup, and  
canned pasta**

To volunteer, call Linda Finnerty at 315-813-3477  
Please put donations in the box in the narthex at  
St. Peter's

### **PLEASE CALL THE CHURCH OFFICE WHEN:**

- You or a family member is sick or in the hospital.
- You are planning a meeting or scheduling an event—to place it on the church calendar.
- A baby is expected in your family.
- You want to arrange for a baptism or wedding.
- A family member has passed away.
- Your telephone number or address has changed.
- You are planning to move, locally or out of town.
- You feel the church can help you in any way.

### **Church Chatter via Email**



Go Green: If you prefer to receive the church chatter via email, please email Kathy Piemonte at **office@stpetersverona.org** and she will email you the Chatter.



During a time like this  
we realize how much  
our friends and relatives  
really mean to us...  
Your kind expression  
of sympathy will always  
be remembered.  
By the family of  
**Margaret E. Law**

**St. Peter's Lutheran Church,  
Thank you to all for your prayers for our Mom. She  
really appreciated the many cards, gifts & visits from  
everyone. Thanks to Pastor Katie & Nan for time  
spent with her. God Bless you.**

### **Leave a Legacy**

Nobody likes to think about what will happen when they die, but one of the ways you can make an impact on generations to come and share the light of Christ with future generations is to make a legacy gift to the church.

There are several ways to do this. The ELCA church-wide organization has a campaign called "Always Being Made New" that supports efforts to fight malaria and hunger, launches new congregations, provides seminary scholarships, and reaches out to youth and people with disabilities. You can choose to make a one-time gift to that campaign or to any entity you want to support (i.e. the Upstate New York Synod, Vanderkamp, one or more of our seminaries, etc.). You also have the option of setting up a fund at St. Peter's to support future ministry in whatever capacity you desire.

Please speak with Pastor Katie or someone on the Investment Committee (Jeff White, Jeanette Burke, Kevin Angell) to find out more.



If you are a Facebook user and you haven't already "liked" our page, please do so! We currently have 263 likes and 267 people have checked in at St. Peter's (checking in on Sunday is an easy way to share your faith with others). Search for "St. Peter's Lutheran Church in Verona N.Y." and click on "like" to add us to your news feed. We are now also on Twitter and you can follow us at @StPetersVerona. Remember, even if we don't show up in your news feed, we may be posting important information, so the best way to see what we're up to is to go directly to our Facebook page. Thank you to everyone who has RSVPed to an event, liked a post, or shared a post with your friends—you are helping make St. Peter's a wonderful and welcoming place!



### **KEEP IN TOUCH!**

Help us keep our mailing and phone contacts up to date.

**MOVED? CHANGED A PHONE NUMBER?  
GONE OFF TO SCHOOL?**

Call, write, or email us your changes so we can keep the office records up to date.  
315-363-5211  
4897 Old Oneida Road, Verona, NY 13440  
office@stpetersverona.org



## HOW DO I ASK FOR PRAYER?

We have several ways to request prayer:  
**For emergencies:** Contact Marie Sayles ([msayles2@twc.com](mailto:msayles2@twc.com), 315-337-8758) to

begin the Prayer Chain

**For ongoing prayer done privately:** Fill out a green form from the pew racks and put in the offering plate OR leave a note in the Prayer Ministry mailbox in the entryway

**For prayer in Sunday worship:** Write it on the clipboard in the narthex

**For a prayer shawl:** Contact Leigh Ann Gilladette at 315-280-4100

## ALTAR GUILD

If you would like to provide flowers for the altar or have the sanctuary candle lit on a particular Sunday in memory or honor of someone, please sign up for your desired Sunday on the bulletin board outside the sacristy and choir room (*same hallway as the restrooms*). For flowers, you are free to shop for flower arrangements or plants and bring them to the altar before 8:30 on Sunday morning. After the 11:15 service concludes, you may take them home or leave them to brighten the church space.

*For the candle, please speak to Diane Angell, Phone 315-363-6249, to make arrangements.*



## MUTUAL MINISTRY TEAM

The purpose of the Mutual Ministry Team is to support the ministry of St. Peter's and deal with any concerns which may arise among the partners in ministry, i.e. the congregation, pastor, and staff. The team will meet quarterly or more often as the need arises.

Steps to be taken when there is a concern:

- A concern is brought to the attention of a team member.
- Discussion takes place within the team on how best to address the concern.
- The team will offer guidance and support to all parties involved in addressing the concern.

*Note: While all concerns will be shared with the entire team (including the pastor), confidentiality will be maintained within the team as appropriate.*

MMT Members:

Jerry Burke                    361-1134(h); 339-2954(c)

Kathy Haldenwang        336-4698(h); 264-3419(c)



Just a reminder! We collect can tabs YEAR ROUND! That includes tabs on soup cans, pet food cans, and tuna fish cans in addition to your standard soda can tabs. Place them in the plastic jar on the Welcome Table and we will bring them to Synod Assembly in the spring for that year's ministry opportunity.

## MISCELLANEOUS COMMUNITY INFORMATION...

### Spring Festival 2018 Lutheran Campus Ministry and STEP Center

Sunday, April 22nd  
2pm-4:30pm

Immanuel Lutheran Church,  
4947 State Route 31, Clay, NY 13041

Enjoy music, food, competition for your favorite basket and fellowship. Support your vital mission outreach on campus at SU and SUNY ESF. Tickets \$5 at the door or at your congregation

#### Menu

- Chef's Vegetable Crudités including assorted vegetables, cheeses, crackers and dips.
- Oriental Won-ton cups (chicken, cheese, water chestnuts, green onion and spices)
- Tortellini Alfredo (tortellini with vegetables in an Alfredo cheese sauce)
- Assorted finger sandwiches on mini croissants and rye squares
- Chicken Caesar Salad
- Assorted desserts from Immanuel's parishioners

#### Themed Baskets, Collectibles, and Skills to Share

Monday April 9: Sign in Donation at [Lutheran@syr.edu](mailto:Lutheran@syr.edu)

Monday April 16th: Baskets and Treasures Due

#### Drop off points for basked donations

- Parsonage 100 Berkeley Dr. Syracuse, NY
- Luther Memorial North Syracuse, NY
- Immanuel Lutheran, Clay, NY
- Good Shepard Fayetteville, NY

**THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROSITY!**



### BEING FINANCIALLY PREPARED AND LIVING GENEROUSLY GO HAND IN HAND

At Thrivent Financial, we guide people to be wise with money and live generously. We help our members support the causes they care about by putting their faith into action.

#### How would you like to share your:



Time and talents? We offer many opportunities to help your church, your community and the causes you care about.



Treasures? We can help you make smart choices about charitable giving options so your contributions go farther and you can enjoy potential tax benefits.

You can live a balanced and generous life by giving of your time, talents and treasures. And we're here to help.

Kyle F Mumpton, CFP®, FIC  
Wealth Advisor  
7897 Oswego Rd  
Liverpool, NY 13090  
315-451-0252  
[kyle.mumpton@thrivent.com](mailto:kyle.mumpton@thrivent.com)

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#### Attention Married Couples:

Have you signed up for your spring Lutheran Marriage Encounter Weekend? Plans and grass need tending to grow healthy and strong, and so does your marriage!

Following are the scheduled Northeast US spring

Weekends:

\* **March 16-18, 2018** at Heritage Hotel Lancaster in Lancaster, PA. A newly-renovated hotel, home of the unique treehouse-inspired restaurant, "Loxley's."

\* **April 6-8, 2018** at Toftrees Golf Resort in State College PA. A peaceful resort surrounded by a golf course and nestled in the woods in the center of PA.

Registrations are also being accepted for the fall Weekends: **September 14-16, 2018** at Spruce Lake Retreat in Canadensis, PA; **October 19-21, 2018** at Olmsted Retreat Center in Ludlow, PA; and **November 9-11, 2018** at Hampton Inn Berkshires in Lenox, Massachusetts.

Two nights lodging, 5 meals for each of you, and all supplies are included with your \$100 per couple registration fee, plus toward the end of the weekend you will be given an opportunity to make a confidential contribution of whatever amount you wish to help cover expenses and ensure the continuation of the program.

To be sure to get the Weekend of your choice, sign up TODAY. Simply go to: [www.GodLovesMarriage.org](http://www.GodLovesMarriage.org), choose the Weekend desired, and pay the \$100 registration fee with your credit card, or mark the option to mail a check. For questions, please contact Northeast US Contacts for Lutheran Marriage Encounter, Fred & Julie Schamber, at 724-325-3166 or [fjschamber@comcast.net](mailto:fjschamber@comcast.net).

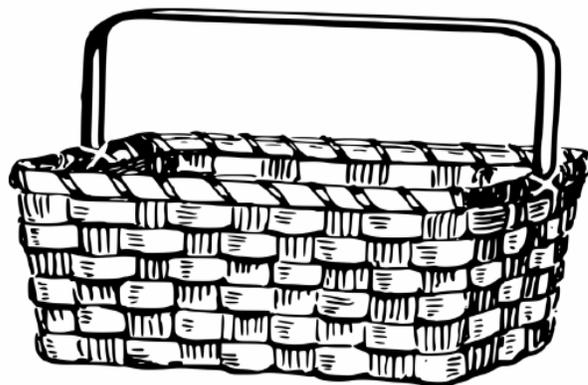
## SAVE THE DATE!

LUTHERAN CAMPUS MINISTRY

SPRING MUSIC FESTIVAL AND THEMED AUCTION

SUNDAY APRIL 22<sup>ND</sup>

PLEASE FILL A BASKET!



Calling for Skills, treasures and talents!  
Contact [griina@syr.edu](mailto:griina@syr.edu), 315-251-4739.



**COMMUNITY WELLNESS PARTNERS**  
 Making life about you

*Affiliation of LutheranCare® and Presbyterian Homes & Services*

presents the showing of



**The Age of  
LOVE**

**Tuesday, April 17 at 2 p.m.**

Clinton Central School  
 Performing Arts Theater  
 75 Chenango Ave. S., Clinton, NY 13323

*Free and open to the public.*

LutheranCare.

Presbyterian  
HOMES SERVICES

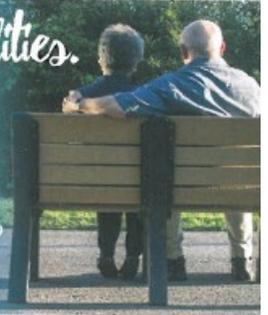


**COMMUNITY WELLNESS PARTNERS**  
 Making life about you

*Affiliation of LutheranCare® and Presbyterian Homes & Services*

*It's time for possibilities.*

Follow the journey of single, older adults in Rochester, NY, whose intimate confessions and efforts to pursue love and friendship and intellectual thirst prove it's never too late to create your own pathway to health and wellness.



At *Community Wellness Partners*, we offer the most complete continuity of health and wellness services for older adults in Oneida County. Our approach to quality care celebrates unique gifts and talents, and provides opportunities to continue to learn, love and grow.

Combining nearly 150 years of service to our region, *Community Wellness Partners is your partner in health.*

For more information, call **315-801-5200** or visit us online at [communitywellnesspartners.org](http://communitywellnesspartners.org).

LutheranCare.

Presbyterian  
HOMES SERVICES

**Verona Area Council of Churches  
 Sponsors the  
 Third Annual Progressive Dinner**

TO BENEFIT VERONA FOOD PANTRY



~ An opportunity for neighbors to visit area churches and socialize ~

**Sunday April 15, 2018 beginning at 4:00pm**

Donation Adults \$10.00 Children \$5.00 (under 5 free)  
 Advance sales only ... No tickets will be sold at the door.

**We will travel from one church to another:**

*Appetizers are at: Verona First Presbyterian Church  
 Main Course at: Verona United Methodist Church  
 Dessert: Seventh Day Baptist Church*

All seven area churches will be participating in this event.  
 Verona United Methodist, New London United Methodist,  
 Beacon Light Baptist, Seventh Day Baptist,  
 Our Lady of Good Counsel,  
 Verona First Presbyterian and St. Peter's Lutheran

For Information Call: St. Peter's Office at 315-363-5211

**Chicken & Biscuit Dinner**

**April 7, 2018**

**4:00pm – 6:30pm**



**Vernon United Methodist Church**

**Route 5, Vernon, NY**

**Adults: \$10.00 Children 6-12: \$5.00**

**Children 5 and under - free**

Take outs are available (call: 315-829-3535)

Menu: Chicken, biscuits and gravy, mashed potatoes,  
 Vegetables, beverage, and homemade pie for dessert.



10% of the proceeds will go to a mission



337 Martin Road  
Cleveland, NY 13042

Phone: (315) 675-3651  
Fax: (315) 675-8802  
Email: vkcenter@vk.org  
Web: www.vk.org

February 28, 2018

St. Peter's Lutheran Church of Verona  
4897 Old Oneida Rd  
Verona, NY 13478

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Thank you for your tax-deductible donation to Vanderkamp. No goods or services were received in exchange for your donation to Vanderkamp Center, a 501(c)3, religious organization (Tax ID: 16-0990313).

As a Christian nonprofit organization, donor support is vital to helping us fulfill our mission, "We seek to serve God by providing facilities and opportunities for people to relate to God, renew their faith, and respond in service." We are continually inspired by the generosity and grace of Vanderkamp supporters like you.

Donations account for approximately one third of Vanderkamp's annual operating budget. As you likely know, operating and maintaining an 850 acre Great Camp as a summer kamp and retreat center is a wide-ranging and far-reaching endeavor not without significant expense. Your generosity touches and enriches the lives of the many kamps, guests and day users who benefit from their experiences at Vanderkamp. We are honored and humbled by your kindness and generosity.

Peace,

Bill and Penny James  
Executive Directors

Date	Transaction Description	Check #/Card Type	Amount
01/18/2018	CHECK payment of \$186.13 towards USE WHERE NEEDED MOST	CHECK #41498	\$186.13

Central CrossRoads Conference Learning at the Crossroads will offer

## *Where Is God When It Hurts?*

*Taught by Rev. Diane Wheatley*

*Saturday, May 19, 2018*

*Combine insights from Philip Yancey's The Question that Never Goes Away and Where Is God When It Hurts?*

*+ Scripture, Discussion, and Life Experience  
to gain insights on caring for folks when life hurts.*

*Luther Memorial Church*

*435 S. Main St.  
North Syracuse*

*9:30 am – 2:30 pm*

*9 am—registration*

*Cost: \$20 includes lunch*

*Sign up by May 4:*

*Call Luther Memorial Church 315-458-1481*

*Or*

*Mail Check, payable to Central Crossroads Conference to Luther  
Memorial Church,*

*435 S. Main St., North Syracuse, NY 13212*

If you are unable to serve on your assigned day, please make attempts to find a replacement.

If you are unsuccessful, please call or email the office. Thank you!

APRIL 2018						
9:00 am						
DATE	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	MINISTER ASSISTING	GREETERS	LECTOR	USHERS	ACOLYTES
4/1/2018* <b>Easter</b>	Diane Angell, Wayne Wood, Marie Sayles, Anna Rossi	Kathy Haldenwang	Diane Angell Marie Sayles Dave Hyatt	Deb Rafte	Ken Regner Marge VanSlyke	Konrad Thurston Kaitlyn O'Dell
4/8/18 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter			MaryAnn Hiltz, Konrad Thurston	Carol Noble	David Hyatt Bob Bibik	Mikayla Coston Kelsey Richmond
4/15/18* 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter	Julie Netzband, Shirley Netzband, Carol Noble, Bev Noble	Deb Rafte	Susan Regner, <b>Volunteer Needed</b>	Julie Netzband	Ken Regner Aaron Dust	Jordyn Steele Logan Sherwood
4/22/18 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter			Deb Rafte, Diane Angell	Jeff White	Tom Thurston Konrad Thurston	Jack Makarchuk Peter Makarchuk
4/29/18* 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Jeanette Burke, Jerry Burke, Peter Makarchuk, Caleb Decker	Janet Fiacco	David Hyatt, MaryAnn Hiltz	Kathy Haldenwang	Bob Fish Marge VanSlyke	Carter DePasquale Dylan DePasquale
11:15 am						
DATE	COMMUNION ASSISTANTS	MINISTER ASSISTING	GREETERS	LECTOR	USHER	ACOLYTE
4/1/18* <b>Easter</b>	Lisa Sandefer Ellen Masi			Ellen Masi	Terry Fike	Liesl Froschauer
4/8/18 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter				Karry Comfort	Lance Comfort	Carissa Klepadlo
4/15/18 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter				Chris Crill	Marvin Perkosky	Ashley Rogowski
4/22/18* 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Chris Crill Linda Rogowski			Ellen Masi	Matt Klepadlo	Camryn Klepadlo
4/29/18* 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter	Terry Fike Carissa Klepadlo			Linda Rogowski	Terry Fike	Grace Candee

\* Communion

Revised 4/5/18

# April 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<b>1</b> <b>Easter Sunday</b> 9:00 am Worship with Communion 11:15 am Worship with Communion	<b>2</b> <b>Church Office Closed</b> Pastor's Day Off 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>3</b> 8:00 am Breakfast with the Bible 9:15 am Nursery School 2:00 pm Pastors' Sermon Study	<b>4</b> 9:00 am Community Christian Seniors Group 9:15 am Nursery School	<b>5</b> 9:15 am Nursery School 6:00 pm Sisters of the Faith Bible Study	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b> 8:00 am – 4 pm Fellowship Hall in Use
<b>8</b> <b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am "Come Fly with Me" Kite Flying 11:15 am Worship 1:30 pm Confirmation Class	<b>9</b> Pastor's Day Off 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>10</b> 8:00 am Breakfast with the Bible 9:15 am Nursery School 2:00 pm Pastors' Sermon Study	<b>11</b> 9:00 am Community Christian Seniors Group 9:15 am Nursery School	<b>12</b> 9:15 am Nursery School	<b>13</b>	<b>14</b> 9:00 am – 7:30 pm Fellowship Hall in Use
<b>15</b> <b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:15 am Sunday School (Rain Date for "Come Fly with Us") 11:15 am Worship 1:30 pm Confirmation Class	<b>16</b> Pastor's Day Off 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>17</b> 8:00 am Breakfast with the Bible 9:15 am Nursery School 2:00 pm Pastors' Sermon Study 7:00 pm Church Council	<b>18</b> 9:00 am Community Christian Seniors Group 9:15 am Nursery School	<b>19</b> 9:15 am Nursery School 6:00 pm Sisters of the Faith Bible Study	<b>20</b> 5:30 pm Wedding Rehearsal	<b>21</b> 2:30 pm Snyder – Eill Wedding
<b>22</b> <b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 am Worship 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15 am Worship with Communion 1:00 pm Hymn Selection Meeting	<b>23</b> Pastor's Day Off	<b>24</b> 8:00 am Breakfast with the Bible 2:00 pm Pastors' Sermon Study 6:00 pm Worship & Music Meeting	<b>25</b> 9:00 am Community Christian Seniors Group 1:00 pm Deacons' Meeting 3:00 pm Community Relations Meeting	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b> 9:00 am – 8:00 pm Fellowship Hall in Use
<b>29</b> <b>5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter</b> 9:00 am Worship with Communion 10:15 am Sunday School 11:15 am Worship with Communion	<b>30</b> Pastor's Day Off 6:30 pm Boy Scouts	<b>Spring Break – No Nursery School</b>				
<b>April 15, 4:00 pm – VACC Progressive Dinner</b> <b>April 22, 2:00 pm – Campus Ministry Fundraiser</b> <b>April 28, 9:00 am – Spring Conference Assembly</b> <b>April 28, 2:00 pm – Lecture on Lutheran History in the Mohawk Valley</b>						