

The Good News

A Publication of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church – Sayville, NY
July/August 2024

⁴ I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵ that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— ⁶ even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— ⁷ so that you are not lacking in any gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸ who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹ God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. ~ 1 Corinthians 1:4-9

Just as many of you stated a few weeks ago, I heartily agree: it is hard to believe that 20 years has gone by since I was ordained and installed at St. John's as your pastor. Like with many things in life, there are days that drag on and there have been times that have been filled with challenges and sorrows, but the years have passed by us in the blink of an eye. It is, perhaps, a small glimpse into the reality of God himself for whom "a day is like a thousand years, and a thousand years like a day."

As I reflect on my life and ministry over the past 20 years, I wish I could offer you a list of things that I have learned and some sage wisdom, but having literally grown up in the pastoral ministry before your eyes, you know many of those lessons already because we have experienced them together. Some of those lessons have come the hard way, but most of them have come about as you have helped to carry me along by the grace you have shown to me. And when it comes to sage wisdom, I can only echo the words of Saint Paul who said, "I determined to know nothing among you except Jesus Christ and him crucified." Knowledge of him by faith is the highest wisdom there is. I could also think about various big moments in our history since I have been here, but there again, we have been through them together and it was only because we were together that they came to pass.

So as I sit here 20 years into the ministry to which Christ has set me and to which you have called me to serve, what do I think about it all? The answer is simple, and yet deeply profound.

First, I recall the overwhelming joy of serving God's people. As I said, there are days and even seasons that are difficult, but every one of them has been an opportunity to see the Gospel have its way with me and us. Mostly, however, there is the joy of the ministry, something that as I mentioned in a newsletter article about a year ago, can only come about through a long pastorate. There are many families for whom I have had the privilege of presiding at baptisms, confirmations, weddings, and funerals. I call it a privilege because these are significant moments in any family, and not only have I been part of them, but in many cases, you have welcomed me in like I was part of the family celebrating these things. While these milestone moments are great, I have to say that the every Sabbath day stuff of ministry is even more enjoyable. Being able to preach and teach and place Christ's body and blood into your hands and mouths is a joyful thing, for I know how such things have sustained you in your lives of faith. It is not about me, of course, but about Christ who is at work in these Means of Grace, and for the blessing of being Christ's voice and hands there is tremendous joy even under the responsibility that brings.

Second, I consider all the ways that God has truly blessed me and my family over the past 20 years (really 22 if you want to include vicarage as well!). Personally, the community of Sayville and the congregation of St. John's has become a home for us, physically and spiritually. We have lived here longer than anywhere else in our life, we started and raised a family here, and we have been blessed by a church family who has been there for us in all kinds of ways, especially since our family is spread out over the country and not next

door. It has been a blessing to work with various leaders in the church and to see them utilize their gifts in service to Christ and this congregation. I have been blessed to have a staff to work with who has been tremendous in what they have to offer behind the scenes, often giving so much of themselves even on their own time to see the ministry of St. John's move forward. It has also been a blessing and a privilege to work with Cindy and Rex ever since I have been here. They have helped me grow in my musical leadership abilities and we have been able to collaborate on some great events over the years. Many a pastor have expressed some jealousy over the level of musical and liturgical leadership we have, and I do not take it for granted a single day. There are so many blessings that they are too many number.

And lastly, I have and will always recall the people of St. John's who make it what it is. Since day one that a couple of young kids set foot on Sayville soil (sand?), this congregation has been a welcoming place. It has been such a joy to get to know you and your families, to experience so many things with you, to learn from you, and to see how you live out your lives of faith, especially in challenging times. Even now that we have become a sort of fixture around here, your care and compassion are still readily evident in many ways, and for that, my family and I are eternally grateful. So many relationships have been built here, and friendships made that, no matter where life might lead us or you in the future, St. John's and Sayville will always be part of who we are. We continue to appreciate this church family more than you know.

All of this is to say that it has been an amazing 20 years of being here and having the opportunity to labor alongside you in this corner of God's vineyard. Thank you for your love and support along the way. It is absolutely true what Paul said above. God is faithful toward us, having brought us into fellowship in Christ Jesus together so that we might rejoice in his blessings and live in the joy and hope of life with him in his kingdom forever. Such is what the last 20 years of ministry among you has been, and so it shall be going forward until the day we are together with the Lord forever!

The Church's one foundation Is Jesus Christ, her Lord;
She is His new creation By water and the Word.
From heav'n He came and sought her To be His holy bride;
With His own blood He bought her, And for her life He died.
Through toil and tribulation And tumult of her war
She waits the consummation Of peace forevermore
Till with the vision glorious Her longing eyes are blest,
And the great Church victorious Shall be the Church at rest (LSB #644, st. 1, 4).

~ Pastor Noack

Thank you – I want to thank you all for the wonderful surprise celebration held for my 20th anniversary of ordination and service to St. John's. It truly was a surprise for me, so you all did a great job of keeping that on the down low! It was such a nice day and a great opportunity to share in the ministry of St. John's together. Thanks to the committee that helped to organize everything – it was really great. It was also a blessing to have past St. John's members there who traveled to be part of the day, family and friends who made it out, and members of the community who attended or sent letters. It was so special to have Pastor Robert Paul up from Texas to serve as the master of ceremonies as well. And lastly, thank you for the very generous gift you gave us as well. Not sure what we will do with that yet, but I was told it had to be for something fun and so it will be.

Most especially, I again want to thank my wife Kristin and daughter Abby who put up with my sometimes very hectic schedule, who are there for me when ministry overwhelms me, and who love me despite all my faults. You are a treasure and a blessing to me and I could not do what I do without you.

Thank you again, and may the Lord continue to bless us as we grow in our faith and life together. Love you and God bless you all! ~ Pastor

E1HW – The next module of the *Every One His Witness* program we will discuss is “Witnessing to LGBTQ People”. We will meet on **July 28** after the 9:30am service (about 11am). This is a complex topic, but one where we can have important conversations leading to opportunities to bear witness to the hope we have in Christ. A signup sheet will be posted for this module on the bulletin board in the narthex, or you may contact the Church Office. Any questions may be addressed to Pastor.

Theology on Tap – Our next Theology on Tap will be held on **Thursday, July 18 at 7pm**. Topic and location are yet to be determined, but save the date and plan to join us for relaxed conversation on matters of faith and life, along with a refreshing beverage of choice. Hope to see you there!

Holy Happy Hour Returns! – Perhaps you might remember in the days of COVID that we held our first-ever Holy Happy Hour in the backyard with beverages, individually wrapped snacks, and social distancing. Well, it was such fun that we’re doing it again! Join us on **Friday, August 30 from 5:30-7:30pm** for the second-ever Holy Happy Hour! This time we can socialize in a more comfortable fashion. Beverages and snacks will be provided, but bring a lawn chair and come down for a little bit and enjoy some fellowship to kick off the Labor Day weekend. Hope to see you there!

Official Acts at Saint John’s (thru June 21):

Baptisms:

Luke Michael Franklin	May 19
Amelia Rae Berrian	June 2



Treasure & Tag Sale – Save the date! Our Annual tag sale will be held on Saturday August 3rd from 9am. to 1pm in the gym. Please come down and find a “treasure.” If you have some treasures to donate, please bring them to the gym anytime from **July 30th** on. Check with the office to make sure the building is open. Remember, **nothing** will be accepted before **July 30**. We will not accept any furniture, clothing, books, cassettes or VCR tapes. However, we would be willing to post a notice about anything you would like to sell. Just give us a card with the information along with your name and telephone number. If you have a picture of the item, you might want to include it. All proceeds will be going towards supporting the missions of the Mary Martha Guild here at St. John’s. Hope you will help make this sale a success. See Honey Pabst for more information. We are also in need of help with the event for setup, working during the sale, and cleanup and transportation of remaining items to local charities. Please sign up online or call the Church Office.

Ah, summer; things slow down, there are get-togethers with friends ... for many. Not for all, as sometimes friends move away, pass on or friendships grow apart.

So where do you meet friends? How does one go about finding them? What does it take?

A Wall Street Journal headline on May 20 read: *“Friendship Can Be a Costly Proposition - More people are relying on gym memberships, art classes and other expensive activities to develop connections.”* It centered on loneliness, difficulty finding friends, and the resulting prohibitive costs of eating out with current or prospective friends.

While things cost money, is that really what it takes to have a friend? Buy your friendship? Buyer, beware!

The hymn “What a friend we have in Jesus” (LSB 770) comes to mind, assuring us that Christ bears all our sins and grief; He hears our thoughts and prayers, and grants us his peace. Jesus is with us in trials and temptations and sees our troubled world. He is faithful. He shares our sorrows and knows us from the inside out. He is there when others forsake us and holds us in his arms when others are not willing or able to do so. He died for us. *In Him* is where one finds one’s very best friend.

Responding in kind is a place to start. Be a friend to make a friend. The cost is not usually one of dollars; but more about listening, truth telling, showing kindness, generosity, self-sacrifice, giving time, being present, being faithful. Being a true friend takes work and intention. It takes being Christ-like; it takes love.

I’m grateful for those special people God has brought into my life as friends, and the role they have played. How much they “cost me” in dollars is not remotely on the radar. Especially in the church and among Christian friends, there are countless opportunities to share in activities of service, outreach, or simply being present with one another.

Vacation Bible School is happening this summer. What a great place to make friends – whether young or old! Come to meet the youth in our church and surrounding neighborhoods. Come so they can get to know you. Check out the church website and sign-up to come or volunteer. Invite a friend, too, and widen the circle.

Part of our mission is to *Live as Disciples* – VBS is a great way to do so... to deepen a relationship with Christ, our very best friend, and make some new ones, too!

Thank you! Once again St. John’s has been instrumental in assisting one of our own to attend *Lutheran Summer Music Academy* through your gifts, donations and support of fund-raising activities. Mary Eylmann will be spending a month at Valparaiso University (Valparaiso, Indiana) at an academy for high school musicians. The faith-based program, with strong Lutheran Liturgical connections is designed to encourage and promote growth – in musical skills, in ensemble performance, in liturgical participation and in social interactions with peers and fellow musicians. Thank you all for your support of *Lutheran Summer Music!*

Music Makers Sought for the summer months and beyond. Several summer Sunday slots are filled. Others await. Singers or instrumentalists of all ages, if you would like to join in, for a week, or a lifetime, please be in touch. Solos and small groups will continue to be scheduled throughout the summer months. Choir rehearsals resume in September for teens & adults – and if there is interest, for children, as well. If you want to know more about what the choirs do, I’d love to hear from you! (music@stjohnsayville.org) or through the church office.

DON'T MISS OUT!

Registration closes July 6th



VBS 2024

St. John's Lutheran Church, Sayville

REGISTER NOW



- ✓ Bible Stories
- ✓ Arts and Crafts
- ✓ Fun Games
- ✓ Music
- ✓ Snacktime

Register online:
www.myvbs.org/stjohnsayville

St. John's Lutheran Church | 48 Greene Avenue, Sayville, NY 11782

sign up

ST. JOHN'S

GOLF

Tournament

AUGUST 26TH

WIND WATCH COUNTRY CLUB

1715 MOTOR PKWY, HAUPPAUGE, NY

Join us for a day of fun on the greens while supporting a great cause. All proceeds will go towards funding the Sayville Soup Kitchen, "Sharing a Meal", the Food Pantry at St. John Lutheran Church in Holbrook and the new Prayer Garden here at St. John's in Sayville. Don't miss out on this opportunity to make a difference and have a great time doing it! Register today to be a player, sponsor, or to donate a raffle prize.

☎ 631-589-3202 | ✉ admin@stjohnsayville.org | 🌐 stjohnsayville.org/2024golfouting



Mary Martha

MUM SALE

When: Orders will be accepted now through September 10, 2024

Pickup Day/Time: Saturday, September 21, 2024 from 12pm – 1:30pm

Location: St. John's Lutheran Church
48 Greene Avenue
Sayville, NY 11782

Cost: \$9.25 per 9-inch pot

Payment: Please make checks payable to "Mary Martha Guild"
Kindly mail all orders/payments to:
Pam Kennard, 46 Holmes Street, Sayville, NY 11782

Orders & payments must be postmarked no later than September 10th.

Order Form

Colors (please list how many of each):

___ Yellow ___ Bronze ___ Red ___ White ___ Pink/Lav ___ Orange

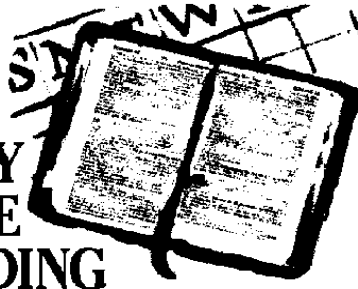
Your Name: _____

Address: _____

Telephone Number: _____

For more information contact Pam Kennard at 631-678-3246.

DAILY BIBLE READING



July 2024

1 Joshua 6:6-27; Acts 10:18-33
 2 Joshua 7:1-26; Acts 10:34-48
 3 Joshua 8:1-28; Acts 11:1-18
 4 Joshua 10:1-25; Acts 11:19-30
 5 Joshua 23:1-16; Acts 13:1-12
 6 Joshua 24:1-31; Acts 10:18-33
 Sun 7 Judges 2:6-23; Acts 13:13-41
 8 Judges 3:7-31; Acts 13:42-52
 9 Judges 4:1-24; Acts 14:1-18
 10 Judges 6:1-24; Acts 14:19-15:5
 11 Judges 6:25-40; Acts 15:6-21
 12 Judges 7:1-23; Galatians 1:1-24
 13 Judges 13:1-25; Galatians 2:1-21
 Sun 14 Judges 14:1-20; Galatians 3:1-22
 15 Judges 15:1-16:3; Galatians 3:23-4:11
 16 Judges 16:4-30; Galatians 4:12-31
 17 1Samuel 1:1-20; Galatians 5:1-26
 18 1Samuel 1:21-2:17; Galatians 6:1-18
 19 1Samuel 2:18-36; Acts 15:22-41
 20 1Samuel 3:1-21; Acts 16:1-22
 Sun 21 1Samuel 4:1-22; Acts 16:23-40
 22 1Samuel 5:1-6 :3, 10-16; Acts 18:1-11, 23-28
 23 1Samuel 6:19-7 :17; Acts 19:1-22
 24 1Samuel 8:1-22; Acts 21:15-36
 25 1Samuel 9:1-27; Acts 21:37-22:16
 26 1Samuel 10:1-27; Acts 22 :17-29
 27 1Samuel 12:1-25; Acts 22 :30-23 :11
 Sun 28 1Samuel 13:1-18; Acts 23 :12-35
 29 1Samuel 14:47-15 :9; Acts 24 :1-23
 30 1Samuel 15:10-35; Acts 24 :24-25 :12
 31 1Samuel 16:1-23; Acts 25 :13-27

August 2024

1 1Samuel 17:1-19; Acts 26:1-23
 2 1Samuel 17:20-47; Acts 26:24-27:8
 3 1Samuel 17:48-18:9; Acts 27:9-26
 Sun 4 1Samuel 18:10-30; Acts 27 :27-44
 5 1Samuel 19:1-24; Acts 28:1-15
 6 1Samuel 20:1-23; Acts 28:16-31
 7 1Samuel 20:24-42; 1Corinthians 1:1-25
 8 1Samuel 24:1-22; 1Corinthians 1:26-2:16
 9 1Samuel 25:1-22; 1Corinthians 3:1-23
 10 1Samuel 25:23-44; 1Corinthians 4:1-21
 Sun 11 1Samuel 26:1-25; 1Corinthians 5:1-13
 12 1Samuel 28:3-25; 1Corinthians 6:1-20
 13 1Samuel 31:1-13; 1Corinthians 7:1-24
 14 2Samuel 1:1-27; 1Corinthians 7:25-40
 15 2Samuel 5:1-25; 1Corinthians 8:1-13
 16 2Samuel 6:1-19; 1Corinthians 9:1-23
 17 2Samuel 7:1-17; 1Corinthians 9:24-10:22
 Sun 18 2Samuel 7:18-29; 1Corinthians 10:23-11:16
 19 2Samuel 11:1-27; 1Corinthians 11:17-34
 20 2Samuel 12:1-25; 1Corinthians 12:1-13
 21 1Kings 1:1-4, 15:35; 1Corinthians 12:14-31
 22 1Kings 2:1-27; 1Corinthians 13:1-13
 23 1Kings 3:1-15; 2Corinthians 1:1-22
 24 1Kings 5:1-18; 2Corinthians 1:23-2:17
 Sun 25 1Kings 7:51-8:21; 2Corinthians 3:1-18
 26 1Kings 8:22-30, 46-63; 2Corinthians 4:1-18
 27 1Kings 9:1-9; 10:1-13; 2Corinthians 5:1-21
 28 1Kings 11:1-26; 2Corinthians 6:1-18
 29 1Kings 11:42-12:19; 2Corinthians 7:1-16
 30 1Kings 12:20-13:5, 33-34; 2Corinthians 8:1-24
 31 1Kings 16:29-17:24; 2Corinthians 9:1-15

July 2024

July 2024						August 2024							
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa
	1	2	3	4	5	6					1	2	3
7	8	9	10	11	12	13	4	5	6	7	8	9	10
14	15	16	17	18	19	20	11	12	13	14	15	16	17
21	22	23	24	25	26	27	18	19	20	21	22	23	24
28	29	30	31				25	26	27	28	29	30	31

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jun 30	Jul 1	2 7:00pm Judo 7:00pm Women's 12 Step	3 12:30pm N/A	4 7:00pm Judo	5 12:30pm N/A	6
7 The 7th Sunday After Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 9:30am Divine Service	8	9 7:00pm Judo 7:00pm Women's 12 Step	10 12:30pm N/A	11 7:00pm Judo	12 12:30pm N/A	13
14 The 8th Sunday After Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 9:30am Divine Service	15	16 7:00pm Judo 7:00pm Women's 12 Step	17 12:30pm N/A	18 7:00pm Theology on Tap 7:00pm Judo	19 12:30pm N/A	20
21 The 9th Sunday After Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 8:45am Summer Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Divine Service	22	23 7:00pm Strategic Planning Meeting 7:00pm Judo 7:00pm Women's 12 Step	24 12:30pm N/A	25 7:00pm Judo	26 12:30pm N/A 5:00pm Ostroski Wedding	27
28 The 10th Sunday After Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 8:45am Summer Choir Rehearsal 9:30am Divine Service 11:00am E1HW	29	30 7:00pm Judo 7:00pm Women's 12 Step	31 12:30pm N/A	Aug 1	2	3

August 2024

August 2024							September 2024							
Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	Su	Mo	Tu	We	Th	Fr	Sa	
					1	2	3	1	2	3	4	5	6	7
4	5	6	7	8	9	10	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	
11	12	13	14	15	16	17	15	16	17	18	19	20	21	
18	19	20	21	22	23	24	22	23	24	25	26	27	28	
25	26	27	28	29	30	31	29	30						

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Jul 28	29	30	31	Aug 1 7:00pm Judo	2 12:30pm N/A	3 9:00am Tag Sale
4 The 11th Sunday After Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 9:30am Divine Service	5	6 7:00pm Strategic Planning Meeting 7:00pm Women's 12 Step	7 12:30pm N/A	8	9 12:30pm N/A	10
11 The 12th Sunday After Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 9:30am Divine Service	12	13 7:00pm Women's 12 Step	14 12:30pm N/A	15	16 12:30pm N/A	17
18 The 13th Sunday After Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 9:30am Divine Service	19	20 7:00pm Council Meeting 7:00pm Women's 12 Step	21 12:30pm N/A	22	23 12:30pm N/A	24
25 The 14th Sunday After Pentecost 7:45am Divine Service 9:30am Divine Service	26 12:00pm Golf Outing	27 7:00pm Women's 12 Step	28 12:30pm N/A	29	30 12:30pm N/A 5:30pm Holy Happy Hour	31

July Divine Service Assistant Schedule

July 7	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Bill Audia	Leo Rigaud
Ushers	Charlie Erb Jim Farrell	Jane Emmel & Kristin Noack
Reader	Jim Farrell	Dorothy Bauer
July 14	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Robert Bayley	Al Coppola
Ushers	Brian & Christine Kirschenheiter	Chuck & Judy Scott
Reader	Christine Kirschenheiter	Al Coppola
July 21	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Greg Calvano	Paul Erath
Ushers	Andy & Patricia Harris	Lloyd & Pam Arrasate
Reader	Jim Farrell	Paul Erath
July 28	Sunday 7:45am	Sunday 9:30am
Communion Stewards	Charlie Erb	Al Coppola
Ushers	Steve & Janet Lindfors	Kevin Paul & Barbara Dahlgren
Reader	Pastor Noack	Elaine Whitehouse

If you are unable to serve where assigned, please find someone you can switch with or someone who can take your place. Please let the Church Office know of any changes you make. Thank you.

July Readings

July 7: Ezekiel 2:1-5; 2 Corinthians 12:1-10 July 14: Amos 7:7-15; Ephesians 1:3-14 July 21: Jeremiah 23:1-6; Ephesians 2:11-22 July 28: Genesis 9:8-17; Ephesians 3:14-21

August Readings

August 4: Exodus 16:2-15; Ephesians 4:1-16 August 11: 1 Kings 19:1-8; Ephesians 4:17—5:2 August 18: Proverbs 9:1-10; Ephesians 5:6-21 August 25: Isaiah 29:11-19; Ephesians 5:22-23
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Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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www.stjohnsayville.org

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Cindy Holden, Director of Music
E-mail: music@stjohnsayville.org

Whitney Dale, Office Administrator
E-mail: admin@stjohnsayville.org

Carolyn Holtz, Bookkeeper
E-mail: bookkeeper@stjohnsayville.org

Tom Keller & Steve Lindfors, Facilities Management

Saint John's Divine Service Schedule

Sunday 7:45am & 9:30am

**Church Office Hours:
Tuesday - Friday, 9:30am-2:30pm
Bookkeeper Hours:
Tuesdays & Thursdays 11am-3pm**

Our Mission

Rejoice in God's grace. Live as disciples. Love one another.

Our Purpose

The family of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church, gathered around Word and Sacrament, enhanced by liturgy and music, exists to encourage its members in a life of discipleship in Christ Jesus and fellowship with one another.

Utilizing the gifts that God has entrusted to us, we engage in acts of mercy, attending to the spiritual and physical needs within our congregation and community.

We bear witness to the Grace of God through living in His Word thus demonstrating the love Christ has shown us.

**A Congregation of
The Lutheran Church – Missouri Synod**

The *Good News* is published by the church office of Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church to keep its members and friends informed of church news and activities. Newsletter deadline for the September 2024 issue will be August 15th.