

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

# THE EAGLE

VOLUME LXI

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ISSUE N<sup>o</sup> 9

Available online @ [www.stjohnnorfolk.org](http://www.stjohnnorfolk.org)

## From Our Pastor

My Dear Family in Christ,

In the sermon of August 22nd, I noted that many of the questions we raise about our Christian faith are "...largely unanswerable questions". We can talk about them, wrestle with them at length but never come to any satisfying conclusions. I have to tell folks "Here is an insoluble riddle you will wrestle with for the rest of your life."

Even a spiritual giant like the late Trappist monk Thomas Merton would empathize with us. So I share with you a famous prayer of his, hoping it may strengthen all of us in our journey of faith:

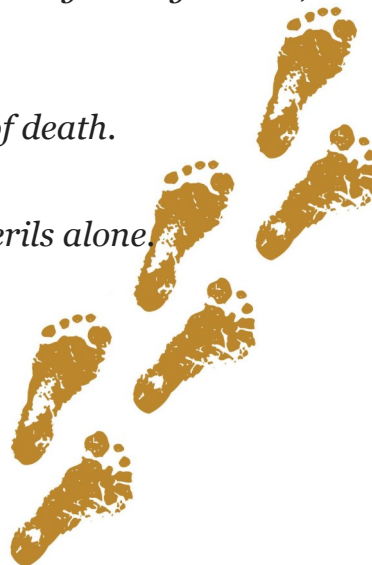
*My Lord God,  
I have no idea where I am going.  
I do not see the road ahead of me.  
I cannot know for certain where it will end.  
nor do I really know myself,  
and the fact that I think I am following your will  
does not mean that I am actually doing so.  
But I believe that the desire to please you  
does in fact please you.  
And I hope I have that desire in all that I am doing.  
I hope that I will never do anything apart from that desire.*

*And I know that if I do this you will lead me by the right road,  
though I may know nothing about it.  
Therefore will I trust you always though  
I may seem to be lost and in the shadow of death.*

*I will not fear, for you are ever with me,  
and you will never leave me to face my perils alone.*

Grace and Peace,

Pastor Don



## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

10:30 am  
Worship Service

## OUR MISSION

*We are a family  
of Christ,  
committed to serving,  
teaching, welcoming  
and loving  
all God's people.*



Visit us on  
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## From Our Council President

Letter to the Congregation,

It has been a busy first month as your Council President. I want to share that at our August Council meeting we voted to terminate our contract with Orkin Pest Control and initiate one with a local group Getem Services. It will be 60 days before Getem will be in the building. Beginning now and going forward, Council authorized JGR, our cleaning company, to throw out any improperly stored food items when they are in the building for the twice weekly cleaning. Aluminum/metal containers are recommended as rodents cannot chew through them. We need everyone's help in eliminating these pests with the goal of safety for our young school students and congregants.

Council also approved the purchase of signs directing worshippers to the ramp doors or those leading directly to the chapel. Council members agreed to rotate monthly making sure the church is open and closed /locked on Sunday mornings.

Council also voted to reinstate the coffee hour after service. Volunteers to make and set up/clean up the coffee station are appreciated. Please let Karen Sutton know of your interest. She has assumed responsibility for scheduling Worship Assistants.

Please know your assistance in keeping the church running is noticed!

Yours in Christ,  
Gail Davidson, Council President

### Council Minutes July 12, 2021

#### ROLL CALL

PRESENT: G. Davidson, D. Midgett, M. Hoyt, Pastor Wilson, R. Dollar, J. Dollar, C. Moran, T. Taffee, T. Garvin, J. Byers, E. Wilson.

#### OLD BUSINESS

- A. Stove. Moving forward to sell.
- B. Since Jim Dollar moved out of state this left a vacancy in the Maintenance Dept. Council then elected Jim Rippley/JGR Enterprise to fill the spot, he currently does the Janitorial Service for St. John and has a contractors license so he can handle all of the churches needs.  
**APPROVED** 1st K . Sutton, 2nd J. Byers

#### RECOMMENDATIONS

- A. Use of St. Matthias Hall, May 6 and 7, 2022 for Women's Serenity group. Need kitchen for prep May 6th and set up of hall and use of hall May 7th. POC: E. Wilson

### *Worship Attendance for July 2021*

Date	Congregation	Choir/ Assistants	Nursery	Total
July 4, 2021	?	?	?	?
July 11, 2021	17	7	0	24
July 18, 2021	26	9	0	35
July 25, 2021	24	8	0	32

Summer has drawn to a close and Fall activities are resuming. Choir will resume this month. We celebrate *Gods Work-Our Hands* on September 12th. We are encouraged to find a community service project we can support. Blessing of our 2021-22 school teachers will be this month.

Choir resumes practice and weekly music offerings this month. Anyone interested in lending their voice to the choir, please see Lee, Music Director here at St. John.

We continue to practice social distancing and COVID restrictions.

Please thank Maria Hoyt for assuming weekly altar flower arrangements. If you would like to sponsor the flowers on a Sunday, please fill out the order form and place it in the offering plate. You can designate them in honor or memory of loved ones.

I, for one, am ready to return to whatever our “new” normal will be.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Davidson, Chair



Diakonia has not been very active since the beginning of the Pandemic. We have missed a lot of the things that we normally sponsor, but hope we are on the road now to a better year of being involved.

We did manage to bring poinsettias to our shut-ins for Christmas. We were hoping to bring a little brightness into their lives.

In the Spring a few of our members went to Susan Bové's house and did some weeding of her flower beds, giving her a fresh start to Summer. She provided lunch and we got to visit with her and her mother.

In August we had to say good-bye to Roxiee and Jim Dollar. They are starting a new adventure in Oklahoma where a daughter of theirs lives. They will be greatly missed. Mandy Dollar Shaffer, another daughter, moved to Buena Vista to begin a new teaching job. Mandy provided flowers for our altar for the last several years, and also provided help where needed in the Church. Diakonia presented Roxiee and Jim a gift card in appreciation for all their hard work and devotion to our Church of the last several years. We also gave a gift card to Amanda for her flower ministry to the church and all her other help. We presented these cards to Roxiee and Jim on August 15, 2021 from Diakonia and their Church Family.

Nothing is being planned at the present time, but we hope to have a meeting in the near future to hopefully plan a few things.

Diakonia made a donation of \$50.00 to Saint Stephen Lutheran Church in Williamsburg, Va. In honor of Ellen Green's Father, Paul Eugene Clements, age 91 who passed away on July 29, 2021.

**DIAKONIA**

Service Opportunities 

Respectfully, Regina Starling and Deborah McLaughlin



**September Anniversaries**

13 ~ St. John Lutheran Church  
68 years

21 ~ Stephen ♥ Elizabeth Ball  
8 years

22 ~ Billy ♥ Stacia Frazier  
9 years

**Jim and Roxiee Dollar**  
23515 E. 95th St. S.  
Broken Arrow, OK  
74014





**September Birthdays**

8 ~ Sheila Charnock

9 ~ Jessie McRae

10 ~ Patricia Kindred

12 ~ Tim Garvin

13 ~ Anne Combes

14 ~ Cheryl Gebler

ST. JOHN  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
*1953 & 1978*  
SCHOOL

*Celebrating 67 years of Ministry!*

8918 Tidewater Drive  
Norfolk VA 23503

757/ 588-7381 Church  
757/ 588-8227 School

Email: [churchoffice@stjohnnorfolk.org](mailto:churchoffice@stjohnnorfolk.org)

Website: [www.stjohnnorfolk.org](http://www.stjohnnorfolk.org)

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

President: Gail Davidson

Vice President: Deborah Midgett

Council Secretary: Ellen Wilson

Financial Secretary: Karen Sutton

Director of Music: W. Lee Hendricks

School Director: Sheila Sanchez

Parish Bookkeeper: Carolyn Moran

Parish Secretary: Anne Combes

**If your mailing information has changed,  
please notify the Church Office.**

**Thank you!**

## **St. John Needs You!**

As we gear up for the coming months, you are needed. We'd like to be able to have enough volunteers so that each person only needs to serve once a month in a category. We need:

**Lectors:** Read the two lessons and lead the Psalm each Sunday.

**Communion Assistants:** Light the candles, carry the cross, set the communion table, and read the prayer petitions. Assist pastor at the altar.

**Acolytes and Crucifers:** Usually a role for youth. Lighting and extinguishing candles; processing with the cross (now done by Communion Assistant).

**Ushers/Greeters:** Hand out bulletins, escort people to pews, greet all, especially anyone you don't recognize. If visitors, encourage them to fill out golden visitor cards.

**Altar Guild:** Ready altar for each Sunday and any special services. Prepare the communion wine and bread. Assure candles will last through service. Tidy pews. Sharpen pew pencils. Fill pew racks with visitor cards, prayer request cards, pew envelopes, blank note paper. Wash and iron altar linens as necessary.

**Counters:** After each service, count the offering as per counter instruction sheet. Separate prayer requests to go to pastor along with any visitor cards. Prepare bank deposit.

There are many opportunities to help serve our family in Christ, but these are the categories for which I will be doing the scheduling. (Thank you, Roxiee, for taking care of this for many years.)

So if you could see your way clear to volunteer for one or more of these opportunities, please send me an email at [kesretired@verizon.net](mailto:kesretired@verizon.net), or put a note in the financial secretary's mailbox in the church office.

Peace and love, Karen Sutton