



# ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH THE EAGLE

VOLUME LXIII

MARCH 2023

ISSUE N<sup>o</sup> 3

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

## From Our Pastor

My Dear Family in Christ,

One of the great preachers of the 21st century, the late Samuel Lloyd, rector of Trinity Church in Boston and Dean of the Washington Cathedral has said this about Easter:

*"This is the high point of the Christian Year, the one day every year when just about everything it over the top - trumpets, tympani and flowers everywhere, long lines for services. I must admit that we clergy have been known to say to ourselves 'Why can't it be like this every Sunday?' ...but if you are going to choose one day a year to come to church, this is the one."*

Jesus' Resurrection assures us that absolutely nothing in this world - not evil, not cruelty, not illness, not loss, not even death - can ever be the last word for us. It challenges the heresy of our world that birth and death are the only two certainties; the assumption that the only thing we can really know are physics, chemistry, biology and the Madison Avenue advertisement makers and the Internet's unending supply of information, some of which is true, yet many times totally false. Easter boldly proclaims that the Source of all life is capable of not just creation, but new creation clothed in the immensity and persistence of divine love.

In a children's book is the story of a bunny rabbit - how's that for Easter:

*"Once there was a little bunny that wanted to run away. So he said to his mother, 'I am running away.' 'If you run away, I will run after you for you are my little bunny.' 'If you run after me said the little bunny, I will become a fish in a trout stream and swim away from you.' 'If you become a fish in a trout stream,' said his mother, 'I will become a fisherman and fish for you.' 'I will become a bird and fly away from you.' 'If you become a bird and fly away from me', said his mother, 'I will be a tree that you come home to.'"*

No matter where life takes us, God will find us and embrace us with his love.

Alleluia! The Lord is risen indeed!

Pastor Don+



## SUNDAY SCHEDULE

*Adult Bible Study  
will resume on  
April 16th*

*10:30 am  
Worship Service*

## OUR MISSION

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

Celebrating  
**69** Years  
of Ministry  
in Ocean View  
**1953-2022**



## From Our Council President

2022 Annual Reports with addendum were approved at the January 29th Annual Meeting. Our bookkeeper was able to secure a much lower property insurance premium and better coverage through Brotherhood Mutual.

Work continues in the kitchen. With congregational approval, a new commercial refrigerator was ordered to be delivered before the end of February. Bids on cabinets, countertops and flooring have been received. The committee grapples with keeping costs to a minimum and refurbishing what we have.

The 70th Anniversary date is September 17, 2023. This workgroup needs more members. Karen Sutton and Tara Taffe have volunteered thus far.

Council approved the creation of a Pastors Discretionary Fund to assist congregants and community members who need limited financial assistance with basic needs. Pastor's report will contain how many have been helped and in what way.

The Scouts hosted their Pinewood Derby. One of our Scouts participated in the Worship Service on February 12th, Scout Sunday.

Lent began February 22nd with Ash Wednesday services. Shrove Tuesday was celebrated after Worship on February 19th. Our Church Secretary cooked the pancakes and sausages. Thanks Anne.

Council approved payment on the bid from Premier to design an AC system for the Sanctuary. If selected for the job, ½ of the bid amount will be refunded to the church. This company repaired the heat in the classrooms and St. Matthias as well.

WELCA received LOVE donations during February. Council approved moving the Spaghetti Dinner date to May 21st after Worship.

Outreach Committee was approved to host a Yard Sale and Book Sale June 3rd.

Council approved the school's use of St. Matthias Hall on February 17th for a movie night.

Council members were assigned as liaisons to committees.

A Long Range Planning Committee was created with the goal of charting the future of St. John. Gerard Gebler agreed to lead this group.

Respectfully submitted, Gail Davidson



The group will meet on  
March 15th at 11:30 am  
@Antonio's Pizza,  
1710 E. Little Creek Road.  
(located in the shopping center next to  
the Walmart Neighborhood Grocery)  
Come on out and enjoy the fellowship.  
For further information  
please call Emily Kircheval.



Altar Guild can use more teams, currently there are only two.

Home Communion continues with this ministry.

Please let the office know of anyone needing rides to church and related functions.

Our Lenten soup and bread after worship continues through March 26th. Sign up sheets are on the bulletin board outside Pastors Office.

In Christ's Service, Gail Davidson  
Worship and Music Chair



### Budget Update – January 2023

Monthly Revenues	\$9,098.22
Monthly Expenses	\$54,669.33
Year to date Revenues	\$9,098.22
Year to date Expenses	\$54,669.33
Year to date: Actual Revenue less Actual Expenses	(\$45,571.11)
<i>Christian stewardship is the free and joyous activity of the child of God and God's family, the church, in managing all of life and life's resources for God's purposes.</i>	

### March Anniversaries

3 ~ Paula ♥ Stephen Dembkoski  
44 years

23 ~ Eric ♥ Kelly Thurber  
11 years



Let us take the opportunity to  
congratulate them on their years together,  
and wish for them to have many, many more.

### March Birthdays

8 ~ Stephen Chivers  
9 ~ Sarah Delgado  
10 ~ Deborah Midgett  
16 ~ Jenny Mutch  
19 ~ Sue Wilson  
22 ~ Pastor Don Wilson  
25 ~ Anthonette Jasco



### Worship Attendance

Date	Congregation	Choir/Assistants	Nursery	Total
January 1, 2023	?	?	?	?
January 8, 2023	24	5	0	29
January 15, 2023	21	7	0	28
January 22, 2023	20	8	0	28
January 29, 2023	24	8	0	32

ST. JOHN  
LUTHERAN CHURCH  
1953 & 1978  
SCHOOL

*Celebrating 69 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

## Did you know???

To help save paper and postage,  
you can view *The Eagle* newsletter online.  
If you would like to read the newsletter online and  
not receive a paper copy,  
please notify the Church Office.

Our Lenten meal of soup and  
bread will be offered following  
the Sunday Worship Services  
during Lent.

Sign up sheets for soup and  
bread are on the bulletin board.  
Please consider not only attend-



ing, but also  
supplying  
soup and/  
suppers or bread for  
one of these  
meals.

The dates are:  
March 5, 12, 19, 26

## SJLS Spring Program

March 24th  
at 7:00 pm

Please  
mark your calendar  
and watch your  
weekly bulletin  
for further details.