



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH THE EAGLE

VOLUME LXIV

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ISSUE Nº 4

Available online @ www.stjohnnorfolk.org

From Our Pastor

My Dear Family in Christ,

By the time you receive this newsletter article, the time I had dreaded most has already arrived and passed, the time and season when I said goodbye to all of you, the community of faith, the body of believers embodying and sharing the good news of Jesus Christ, through word and action.

It has been my joy and privilege to serve as your Interim Pastor for almost six years - my how the time has flown - at least for me, and I will always remember and treasure this experience until the day I die. Our shared hopes, joys, disappointments, sorrows, the power of our prayers, even our differences and certainly our agreements, surviving COVID, our unity in the common cause to know Christ and make him known in this community of Ocean View.

You entrusted me with the awesome ministry of Word and Sacrament, as well as instructing your confirmands, baptizing your children, visiting the infirmed, trying to bring comfort to you at the funerals of your loved ones, and acting as an enabler and encourager for you, to do the ministry as baptized Christians of the Lutheran tradition, whose teachings worship, doctrine and polity I hope I've upheld faithfully. I also ask your forgiveness for the times I have let you down or failed to do what I ought to have done. Lord, have mercy.

We have moved in the past years from a Maintenance Orientation - doing long overdue repairs and upgrades to our physical plant through gifted lay leadership and are now beginning to embark on a Mission Orientation - outreach and invitation to others to be a part of this congregation so they too, joyously may know Christ and make him known. I thank you, the congregation, the officers, the staff, maintenance, assisting lay ministers, the ministry of music and the sheer joy of being able to serve with you.

God be with you 'til we meet again.

Pastor Don+

Farewell



SUNDAY SCHEDULE

9:00 am

Adult Bible Study

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
70 *Years*
of Ministry
in Ocean View
1953-2023



Visit us on
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From Our Council President

For those who have not heard - our Interim Pastor Don Wilson submitted his resignation effective March 31, 2024. He has faithfully served this congregation for just shy of 6 years. Pastor Don plans to continue serving us as part of the pulpit supply as we activate the Call Committee process. We are blessed with two retired pastors attending services as well as our area Dean. Cheryl Gebler agreed to serve as Call Committee Chair. Once this committee meets with the Bishop and Synod Call Committee Rep Rebecca Walls, we will update our MSP with information from the Congregational Survey.

Ellen Wilson has been working tirelessly on the “to do” list resulting from the recent building inspection by the City’s Fire Marshall. The permit for the eternal candle was issued, framed and will be hung. The fire door outside of the men’s room did not pass inspection. It was bolted in an open position; work is underway to restore its functioning.

Our Scouts contributed 267 items collected this month during their food drive. Items have been delivered to Advent’s Food Pantry. As of the middle of March our total collected this year is 564. We are well on the way to meeting the goal for 2024.

We accepted St. Timothy’s invitation to celebrate the Seder Meal on March 30th as part of our Holy Week services. We agreed to host the event since the request was made to use our kitchen.

WELCA proposed we install a wooden railing in the middle of the steps to the altar. Adding this will assist Worship Assistants who carry the cross to and from the altar as part of the service.

Gerard Gebler confirmed our trustees should be bonded.

We are in discussion with a Norfolk based home school group who would like the use of our space 2-3 days a week beginning in September 2024. Details are being worked out. Most of the students are middle and high schoolers. A parent from each family will be on site with the youth. They are also interested in assisting with our school’s plan to sell the curriculum in June. This group carries their own insurance.

Grace Lutheran has offered the assistance of their internal audit committee. At the Bishop’s request, both the School and Church books will be audited. Our Financial Secretary has reports from 2021 forward; the last audit was done in 2018.

WELCA moved its monthly meeting time to follow the SENRETS on the 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Our next “Invite a Friend” Sunday event is April 21st with a pancake breakfast hosted by our trustees. Our first one was attended by 5 guests. Gerard is keeping a list of those who attend. Thank You notes were sent to our guests. As Pastor Don says, we have moved from maintenance to mission-spreading the word by inviting others to join us in worship and growing the Congregation.

Respectfully submitted,

Gail Davidson, Council President

SEN-RETS

We will meet on April 17th
in St. Matthias Social Hall at 11:30 am
We will have a guest speaker!
Bring your bag lunch –
drinks and dessert will be provided
For further information
please contact Emily Kircheval.



Spring has definitely sprung with flowering trees and bushes, chirping birds and a peek at milder temperatures. During April we continue the celebration of our RISEN CHRIST for the next seven Sundays until Pentecost.

On Sunday, April 28th we will join in celebration with Pastor Don on the anniversary of his 55 years in the ministry! Join us in St. Matthias Hall after worship for fellowship.

We provide many ministries here at St. John: home communion, ride sharing, Sunday morning Bible Study, Altar Guild and Communion Assistants, Ushers and Greeters - all who assist in Sunday worship and beyond. Are you being called to volunteer as part of the worship team? Training is available. Please leave word with the office, someone will contact you.

God's work, Our hands!

In Christ's service,

Gail Davidson and Barb Krumm, Worship and Music Co-Chairs



Budget Update – February 2024

Monthly Revenues	\$10,156.00
Monthly Expenses	\$14,934 .29
Year to date Revenues	\$17,704 .00
Year to date Expenses	\$26,499 .88
Year to date: Actual Revenue less Actual Expenses	-\$8,795 .88
<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>	

Worship Attendance

Date	Congregation	Choir/Assistants	Nursery	Total
February 4, 2024	37	7	0	44
February 11, 2024	33	6	0	39
February 14, 2024 Ash Wednesday	18	5	0	23
February 18, 2024	25	7	0	32
February 25, 2024	33	7	0	40

RISEN JESUS,
as spring blossoms
around me,
MAY YOUR LOVE
BLOSSOM IN ME,
that I might share its
fragrance and brilliance
WITH OTHERS.



5 - Tarn Krumm
20 - Maria Hoyt
27 - Carl Harrington

ST. JOHN
LUTHERAN CHURCH
1953 - 2023

Celebrating 70 years of Ministry!

8918 Tidewater Drive
Norfolk VA 23503
757-588-7381

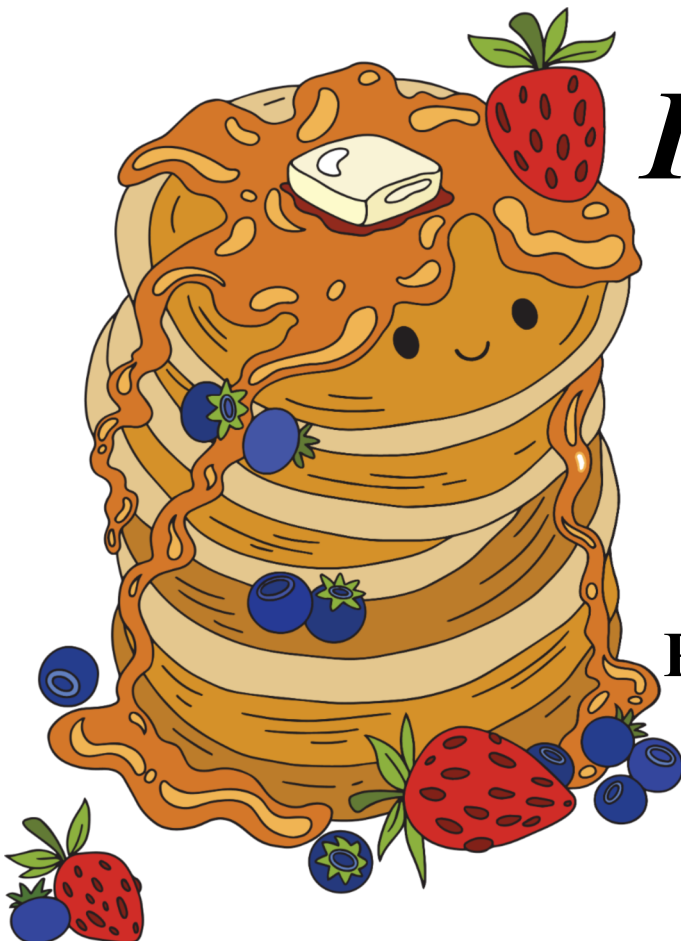
Email: churchoffice@stjohnnorfolk.org
Website: www.stjohnnorfolk.org

CHURCH LEADERSHIP

President: Gail Davidson
Vice President: Deborah Midgett
Council Secretary: Ellen Wilson
Financial Secretary: Karen Sutton
Director of Music: W. Lee Hendricks
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.



Invite a friend to Church

Sunday, April 21st
9:00 am

before the Worship Service
we will have a

PANCAKE BREAKFAST