

St. John's Lutheran Church  
153 Church Avenue  
Farmington, NY 14425

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St. John's Lutheran Church, 153 Church Avenue, Farmington, NY 14425  
*a caring congregation reaching out to all*

Phone: (315) 986-3045

Pastor: Robert Weidmayer

Office Manager: Debbie Torlish

Preschool Director: Lynda Scribner

Worship: Sundays 8:30 & 11AM; Wednesdays, 7 PM

[www.pumpkinhook.org](http://www.pumpkinhook.org)

[revbob@pumpkinhook.org](mailto:revbob@pumpkinhook.org)

[stjohns@pumpkinhook.org](mailto:stjohns@pumpkinhook.org)

[preschool@pumpkinhook.org](mailto:preschool@pumpkinhook.org)

Weekday Preschool for 3 & 4 year olds

## St. John's Lutheran Church The Good News Gazette ~ July 2017



Sundays at 9:30AM  
Wednesdays. 7:00 PM

**FROM THE PASTOR:**

"The LORD spoke to Moses, saying,<sup>23</sup> "Speak to Aaron and his sons, saying, Thus you shall bless the people of Israel: you shall say to them,

<sup>24</sup> *The LORD bless you and keep you;*<sup>25</sup>

*the LORD make his face to shine upon you and be gracious to you;*<sup>26</sup> *the LORD lift up his countenance upon you and give you peace.*

<sup>27</sup> "So shall they put my name upon the people of Israel, and I will bless them." (Numbers 6:22-27 ESV)

We've heard these words so many times in the past. At the end of most worship services the Benediction of God is proclaimed. What do these words really mean? What is God saying here? For many this is simply a signal that the service is over and they can pack up their items and get ready to go home. Yet, this "sending home" is an extremely special part of God's service to us!

God instructed Moses to have his brother Aaron, the high priest as the time, speak this blessing upon the people of God. Just as we began with God identifying whose we are, placing His name upon us, so we also close with God placing His name upon us. We are welcomed in as His children and sent out as His children.

Let's take a closer look at what these words are saying:

**The Lord Bless you:** The Hebrew word for bless can be literally translated "*to bring a gift on bended knee*" It here we see God's grace and love as He brings us a gift. His son Jesus Christ bent to earth to serve us; giving us the most precious gift of all; forgiveness, new life and all things necessary for this life.

**and keep you:** Keeping is literally translated as "*guard, protect, defend*". It is reminiscent of the shepherds of the Old Testament who would fashion fences of thorns around their sheep to protect them throughout the night. God wraps us in a hedge of His love and protection even when we don't see it.

**The Lord make His face to shine upon you:** This is more than simply God looking at us with a smile as a father would upon his children. Instead this is God enlightening us, shining light to cast off all shadows,

fear. He reveals that which is hidden and makes it plain. Most importantly He shines the light of His love into our world. "The Light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it" (John 1:5)

**and be gracious unto you:** Again the Hebrew translation of these words indicate a protection. Protection from enemies within and from outside. One could only find protection in the wilderness by the gracious provision of someone else allowing them shelter in times of need. That's the idea here. God does not treat us as our sins deserve. He instead protects us and delivers us from the devil's attacks, the world's temptations and our sinful flesh with all its desires and lusts.

**The Lord lift up His countenance upon you:** We translate the Hebrew here to include the entire being. Here God is saying He is with us completely. We don't get part of Him, we get all of Him. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. This being does not come in judgment or anger but in love, forgiveness and peace do we see Him. He promises to envelope us in Himself. "I am with you always to the end of the age." (Matthew 28: 20)

**and give you peace:** This why God comes to us. He brings peace between God and man, spreads that peace among all people. This does not mean all conflicts and troubles end. No, God brings His peace which is the stamina and fortitude to endure and see God working, leading, forgiving and strengthening us as we follow Him each day. The peace that passes all understanding is ours in Christ. (Philippians 4:7)

There is so much packed into these short words! What a fitting way to end our time of receiving God through His Word, His Sacraments and through one another! What more can we say in response to this but AMEN, yes, it shall be so! -- *Serving Christ with you, Pastor Bob Weidmayer* +++

Attendance:	8:30 AM	11 AM	Wed.	Total
<b>May 28</b>	46	53	13	112
<b>June 4</b>	45	99	20	164
<b>June 11</b>	73	36	21	130



**CONGRATULATIONS** to our young people who were Confirmed on June 4th: Alexandra Wheeler, Hunter Walters, Adam Smith, Henry Merges, and John Blazey! God Bless you all!

**THANK YOU TO ALL OF THE ADULTS WHO HAVE HELPED TO MAKE OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL A SPECIAL PLACE.**



Linda Savage, Karen Palermo, Tonya Binder, Debbie Beiderbecke, Lisa Maier, Lance Eckler, Steve Maier, Jen and Kevin Delehanty, Al and Shari Schoenknecht, Kim and Dave Cruttenden

If you are interested in helping us for VBS or the 2017-2018 school year, please see Linda Braun (315) 538-8725.

**LONG TERM PRAYER LIST**

Tom Meade ( <i>Carpenter's friend</i> )	Gordon Hill	Doug Snyder
Bill Heltzel ( <i>Nancy Wint's brother</i> )	Don Arnold	Glen Bastian
Nadine Printup ( <i>friend of Mead's</i> )	Mia Howie	Karen Carey
David A. Kuehnert ( <i>Don's brother</i> )	Vicki Secor	
Jack Garlock ( <i>friend of Carpenters</i> )	John Delehanty ( <i>Kevin's father</i> )	
Shirley Netzbund ( <i>Jeff's mother</i> )	Jack Scribner ( <i>Gary's brother</i> )	
Lindsey Trullo ( <i>Cindy's daughter</i> )		
Amy Gaesser ( <i>Laura Hammerick's sister</i> )		
Mildred O'Neil ( <i>Charlene Musfeldt's sister</i> )		
Kailee ( <i>friend of Jean Heberle</i> )		
Linda Mancl ( <i>Greg Zuege's sister in law</i> )		
David Wojick ( <i>Lauree Meehan's brother</i> )		
Jon Means ( <i>Gary Scribner's brother-in-law</i> )		
Jackie Dippert ( <i>friend of Laura Hammerick</i> )		
Jason Torrance ( <i>Karen &amp; Paul Meyer's nephew</i> )		
Ruth Pfeiffer ( <i>Carolyn Rosenzweig's mother</i> )		
Kenneth Soscia ( <i>friend of the Buckingham &amp; Jenkins families</i> )		
Jane Barmaster, Autumn & Emily ( <i>Martha's family</i> )		
Steve Preston ( <i>Roger &amp; Kathy Carpenter's friend</i> )		
Jennifer Knoblauch ( <i>Pastor &amp; Jackie's daughter</i> )		
Alex Schwendemann ( <i>Nicky Kirsch's nephew</i> )		



**ARE YOU THINKING OF DOWN-SIZING?**



Do you see items in your cupboards you have not used in ages? Does your work bench In the basement or garage have tools you do not use?

If so, consider being a part of the Church Garage Sale!! If interested, call Jean Heberle 585-654-6291

The date and time of the sale will be determined by those participating. This will be a fun day!! All items not sold will be donated to Goodwill after the sale. Please call by July 23rd.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS 2017**

Well, it's here! A long time, in coming, but summer is upon us. It is definitely a time to relax, but it is also a time to feed your mind, body and soul. Although we won't have a traditional Sunday School on Sunday mornings, we will be holding a Family Bible study.

**Summer Bible Studies:**

- Teens/Adults 10:45 – 11:45 beginning June 25<sup>th</sup>
- VBS is on August 7-11<sup>th</sup>
- Volunteers needed – sign up table in the family room.
- Registration is open and available on-line at [pumpkinhook.org](http://pumpkinhook.org)

Watch for information on the Pumpkin Hook Fireman's parade float! Thank you for bringing your children to St. John's. As we end our school year, we also look forward to our 2017-2018. If you are interested in helping out; especially as a teacher please let me know. I can be reached at [fraubraun@rochester.rr.com](mailto:fraubraun@rochester.rr.com), or (585) 355-9416.

**SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: MAY**

	5/7	5/14	5/21	5/28	Avg.
K-8	38	38	30	26	33
Teens	9	11	10	9	10
Adults	13	6	13	7	10
Totals	60	55	53	42	53
Offerings	\$21.00	\$36.28	12.25	10.50	\$80.03

**SUNDAY SCHOOL ATTENDANCE: JUNE**

	6/4	6/11	6/18	Avg.
K-8	28	29	21	26
Teens	10	n/a	n/a	10
Adults	7	13	3	8
Totals	45	42	24	37
Offerings	\$7	\$64	\$8	\$74.00

**PERFECT ATTENDANCE (MAY 2017)**



Pre-K & K: Evan Jacobs, Lia Holtz, Eliana Purvis  
 1st, 2nd, & 3rd grade: Bennett Jacobs  
 4th, 5th, & 6th grade: Trevor Jacobs

### JULY ACTIVITIES CALENDAR:

Wednesdays: Bible Study, 11 AM (Parkwood Heights)

Wed, Thurs. & Fri, July 5-7: Education Building being painted

Saturday, July 8: Men's Breakfast, 8 AM

Monday, July 10<sup>th</sup>: Church Council, 7 PM (Executive Session)

Sunday, July 23: Newsletter deadline; assembly 7/26

### MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT

In the June Good News Gazette I announced that the June 11th Voter's Meeting would be my last act as Church President. Many things went into my making that decision, including what I thought was in the best interest of St. John's.

Since early June, I have received an overwhelming outpouring of love and support, with many people asking me to reconsider my decision. I want to thank each person that has taken the time to stop and send along their love and encouragement. I cannot express my appreciation for the kind comments I have received.

After the Voter's Meeting, I asked Church Council to table my resignation and to allow me time to reconsider my decision.

I am announcing that I have decided to stay on as Church President. My intention is to work with Church Council and the Trustees to find ways that we can address the concerns that have been brought forward. To this end, a special executive meeting of Church Council will be held on Tuesday, July 10th to discuss a path forward.

To be sure we consider all concerns/comments expressed, we ask that letters of testimony be submitted to Council, both those who expressed concerns and those who expressed support. Send all documentation to Howie Barnes at [vice.president@pumpkinhook.org](mailto:vice.president@pumpkinhook.org) by July 3rd. This includes letters read at the meeting, letters unread at the meeting due to time constraints, or any other concerns that may need to be considered by Council as we work through this process.

As the season moves into the heat of summer, I ask that all members keep St. John's in your prayers as we work to finding solutions to the concerns expressed.

– Jeff Netzband

### JULY BIRTHDAYS

- 3 Cassandra Boerman, Maxwell Delehanty
- 4 Karen Carey
- 5 Holly Savage
- 8 Les Fleenor, Rae Lynn Biehl, Nancy Ferris, Gavin Burba
- 9 Ed Holtz
- 10 Katie Fenton, Audrey Helfer
- 11 Rick Schantz
- 12 Bill Bowerman
- 13 Kelsey Netzband, Will Merges, Gerald Case, Lonnie Statucki
- 15 Jackie Weidmayer
- 16 Melissa Bauer, Gavin Pizillo
- 18 Jeremy Prostka
- 19 Jeffrey Geddis, Haley Christensen, Dave Iadanza, Micky Wint
- 20 Myrreah White
- 21 Drew Power
- 22 Adam Braun
- 23 Bethany VanCaesele
- 24 Kathy Minwell, Rachel Chatterton
- 25 Cindy Trapp
- 27 Kay Minwell, David Mullen
- 28 Ronald Bastian, Emily Eckler
- 29 Dave Heckman
- 31 Lauree Meehan



### JUNE COUNCIL

New appointments to serve the congregation were approved:

**Worship, Music, & Arts:** Abigail Kent (complete term ending 2017)

**Elders:** Mary Ballou (complete term ending 2018)

**Council Secretary:** Jen Delehanty (complete term ending 2017)

**MEMBERSHIP CHANGES** granted at Church Council 6/12/17.

At their requests, the following memberships were released:

*Karen & Jonathan Palermo*

*John, Deborah, Dawn, & Samantha Torlish*

It is with our fondest wishes and prayers, we grant them all peaceful releases. May they continue to walk in faith with our Lord, Jesus Christ.



### BAPTISM

*Jesse Erik Stephen Cheney*, born April 7th, 2016 to Michael and Stephanie (nee Preece), was baptized by Pastor Weidmayer in Pumpkin Hook Park on June 18<sup>th</sup>.