

# The Mustard Seed



June 2026 Newsletter

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church**

47 McLachlin Street South, Arnprior, Ontario  
K7S 2Z1

“The Kingdom of Heaven is like a grain of mustard seed, which a man took, and sowed in his field; which indeed is smaller than all seeds. But when it is grown it is greater than the herbs, and becomes a tree, so that the birds of the air come and lodge in it branches”

*Matthew 13:31-32*

## Contact Information

Church Office Phone Number: 613-623-4562

You can find us on:

Facebook: St. John's Lutheran Church Arnprior  
Web: stjohnsarnprior.com



### Church Council

Ryan Zimmerling (Chair)	613-978-3900
Melissa Watt	613-858-9932
Cheryl Supple	613-623-4514
Dave Burkett	613-618-5729
Cathy Zimmerling	613-899-8503

### Other

Enid Blackwell – Treasurer	613-623-7017
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For emergency Pastoral care please contact Pastor Norine at 613-282-5032.

## Getting involved at St. John's

A question that pulls us in many directions - church, family, community and friends - how can we help.

There are many avenues in the church that need help.....most activities / jobs actually take very little time - to a few chores that might take an hour or so. You might want to consider reading the lessons and prayers during the service? Are you interested in helping with the children and their lessons? Is hospitality your thing, bringing snacks/goodies for coffee hour, do you like meal planning?

It is the perfect time to get involved at St. John's. We all benefit when we share our time, talent and treasure with one another. Interested in seeing/starting something new, or bring back an old favorite item? Share your idea with one another, council and the pastor!

## Pastor's Message

This Sunday May 31, 2026 marks the 40<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the ELCIC!

Many ELCIC Lutheran churches across Canada have planned some special activities for today. They are celebrations of how our faith is what we live out together. Not only is this about caring for creation but it is about the care, compassion and generosity of the church in caring for our local communities.

Also on May 31, Rev. Bonnie Scharf from St. James, Renfrew will celebrate 40 years of ordained ministry as she is one of the first women to be ordained in the Eastern Synod, and the ELCIC !

There are many causes for our church to celebrate this spring. We have a great newsletter! We have a church council who are invested in the life and work of our church. They are working towards having an Interim Pastor. We gather for coffee hour to catch up on each other life stories. Since Easter weekend we have supported each other through many family deaths, and illness. When something needs to be done at the church, we have people who have stepped forward to help out.

We do this work of Christ in the world together. Jesus great commission (Matthew 28:16-20) is our commission. We affirm this in the words of the liturgy for baptism. ( ELW pg 231) We are building a community of compassion, mercy and healing.

It is by grace that we continue to be disciples of Christ in the world. We rely on our faith family - church- for support and help as we partner with one another to bring God's good news to the world!

May you and your family celebrate all of your blessings this spring!

Sincerely, in Christ,  
P+Norine



## *Draft Minutes of May 25, 2026 Council Meeting*

Attendance:

Pastor Norine Gullens		
Ryan Zimmerling	Mellissa Watt	Cheryl Supple
Dave Burkett	Cathy Zimmerling	

Ryan called the meeting to order 12:10 pm. Pastor Norine opened with devotions.

**1. Approval of April 20<sup>nd</sup>, 2026 council meeting minutes and the Zoom meeting held on May 19<sup>th</sup>:**  
Dave moved that the minutes be accepted as presented and Pastor Norine seconded, CARRIED.

**2. Chairperson's Report:** Council went into an in-camera session for discussion.

**3. Interim Pastor**

Ryan is in the process of finding an interim Pastor. One potential is being approached.

**4. Pastor's Report:**

Pastor Norine outlined her activity for the period April 21<sup>st</sup> through May 24<sup>th</sup> 2026: Pastoral Visitations / Wake & Burial / Hospital Visits / Meetings and Admin.

**5. Financial Report:** The Treasurer submitted a brief report – nothing remarkable to report. Enid Notified Council that she needs to step back from the Treasurer workload. Ryan to contact Adam Rueckwald to open the discussions on how much other work he can assume. Council will convene a small group to discuss handling the remaining workload.

**6. Council Transition:** Cheryl reported that her potential rental option for Gary Patrois is not available.

**7. Property:** Nothing to report.

**Meeting closure:** Meeting closed with prayer. Next regular meeting: June 15<sup>th</sup> 2026 at 12:00 p.m.

# June 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 1-2pm Muslim Community	<b>6</b> Big Give BBQ 11-2  Pastor Norine
<b>7</b> <u><b>2nd Sunday after Pentecost</b></u> 10:30 Service of the Word Randy Z with guest Barb Dowal Social	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>	<b>10</b> Noon – 1pm Music 'n Motion	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 1-2pm Muslim Community	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> <u><b>3rd Sunday after Pentecost</b></u> 10:30 Holy Communion Rev Rick Durrett  Cory Weckwerth	<b>15</b> Council Meeting  Anda Sprudz	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b> Noon – 1pm Music 'n Motion  Eric Obst	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 1-2pm Muslim Community  Andy Kalnins	<b>20</b> Men's Group 9 am at Jim's
<b>21</b> <u><b>4th Sunday after Pentecost</b></u> 10:30 Holy Communion Pastor Ritva Willaims  <b>Father's Day</b>	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> 5:30-8pm Arnprior Cares Group  Bob Hinchley Shane Zimmerling	<b>24</b> Noon – 1pm Music 'n Motion  Barb & Gerald F. Kaleigh Craig	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> 1-2pm Muslim Community	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> <u><b>5th Sunday after Pentecost</b></u> 10:30 Holy Communion Pastor Ritva Willaims Social	<b>29</b>  Randy & Cathy Z.	<b>30</b>				

## June Celebrations



June 6<sup>th</sup> – Pastor Nornine  
 June 14<sup>th</sup> – Cory Weckwerth  
 June 15<sup>th</sup> – Anda Sprudz  
 June 17<sup>th</sup> – Eric Obst  
 June 23<sup>rd</sup> – Bob Hinchley  
                   Shane Zimmerling  
 June 24<sup>th</sup> – Kaleigh Craig



June 24<sup>th</sup> – Barb & Gerald Formuziewich  
 June 29<sup>th</sup> – Cathy & Randy Zimmerling

## Volunteer Schedule – June

Date	Ushers / Greeters	Altar Guild	Reader	Communion Assistant	Music	Counters	Social
7	Elmer & Marion L	P+ Norine	Jessica Elliot Family		Craig B.	Mellissa W & Ryan Z.	Cathy & Randy
14	Elmer & Marion L	P+ Norine	Mellissa Watt Family	Randy Z	Lynne Z	Mellissa W & Ryan Z.	
21	Elmer & Marion L	P+ Norine	Jeff/Debbie K.	Jeff Kargus	Karen P.	Mellissa W & Ryan Z.	
28	Elmer & Marion L	P+ Norine	Joy Statham	Bob Witt	Lynne Z.	Mellissa W & Ryan Z.	P+ Norine

If you would like to assist in any of the above tasks, please contact:

Readers – Bob Witt  
 Communion Assistants – Pastor Norine  
 Counters – Enid  
 Sunday School – Mellissa Watt  
 Social – Debbie Kargus  
 Ushers/Greeters – Maureen Rueckwald  
 Birthdays / Anniversaries – Debbie Witt



## Sponsoring Social Coffee Hour

Are you interested in helping with a social after service, but are unable to host the social yourself - why not consider donating towards a social and leave the hosting up to someone else!

Your donation could be:

- homemade treats
- purchased treats, cheese, crackers or fruit that you bring in
- money to put towards the purchase of treats, cheese, crackers or fruit that the social team picks up

OR, are you able to host a social where the treats are provided by someone else and you do the set-up, make the tea and coffee and clean-up?

OR, perhaps you like fully hosting by providing the treats, setting-up and cleaning-up!

If any of these ideas are a possibility for you, or if you have any questions, please contact Debbie Kargus.

# ZION LUTHERAN



## You're Invited!

JOIN US FOR A ZOOM PRESENTATION



WITH  
**BISHOP  
CARLA BLAKELY**

Bishop of the  
Eastern Synod of the  
ELCIC

*"I will  
restore their  
fortunes and  
have compassion  
on them."*

- Jeremiah 31:Restore 17



WEDNESDAY  
JUNE 3, 2026



2:30 P.M.  
(Eastern Time)



BISHOP CARLA  
WILL JOIN US  
ON ZOOM.

JOIN US IN PERSON AT ZION LUTHERAN

454 Miller St., Pembroke



*Coffee and snacks to follow!*

### LEARN ABOUT Canada Lutheran World Relief's Friends of Creation Program

Supporting the people of Lake Chad in Africa as they work to build a better future through improved farming, fishing, women's ministry, women's businesses, and small businesses. Together, we bring hope and help to a region where the lake has shrunk and the people are struggling.

TOGETHER, WE MAKE A DIFFERENCE.  
TOGETHER, WE BRING HOPE.



*Faith in Action. Love in Service. Hope for the World.*

*"Let us not grow tired of doing good, for in due time we will reap a harvest."*

- Galatians 6:9

## Congregational News / Updates

Join us on Saturday, June 6 from 11:00 – 2:00 for a **FREE BBQ** and social time with friends and neighbours. We will be serving Hamburgers, hotdogs, water and pop. Many churches in Arnprior will be participating in this event, offering a free fun filled community building day.



For more information about the BIG GIVE visit <https://thebiggive.ca/>  
Please contact Jeff or Maureen if you are looking for any additional information.  
**All you need to do is pray for a warm sunny day!!**



The "Men's Group" met on May 2<sup>nd</sup>.  
Here is the group with only a couple of people missing.  
Great breakfast and great conversations.

## Thank You's

A thank you to all who have signed up to assist with lawn cutting this spring and summer....a job outside is always enjoyable.



With much love, care and appreciation that we say thank you to Pastor Norine for stepping in and assisting us with Pastoral duties during our transition with Pastor Sylvia leaving. We pray that as you resume your retirement, that you can once again go back to your stress free daily routines.

## Lessons for Life

### Lesson 3 – Always remember those who serve - In the days when an ice cream sundae cost much less,

A 10-year-old boy entered a hotel coffee shop and sat at a table. A waitress put a glass of water in front of him. "How much is an ice cream sundae?" he asked. "Fifty cents," replied the waitress.

The little boy pulled his hand out of his pocket and studied the coins in it. "Well, how much is a plain dish of ice cream?" he inquired. By now more people were waiting for a table and the waitress was growing impatient. "Thirty-five cents," she brusquely replied. The little boy again counted his coins. "I'll have the plain ice cream," he said.

The waitress brought the ice cream, put the bill on the table and walked away. The boy finished the ice cream, paid the cashier and left. When the waitress came back, she began to cry as she wiped down the table. There, placed neatly beside the empty dish, were two nickels and five pennies.

You see, he couldn't have the sundae, because he had to have enough left to leave her a tip.

# HAPPY Father's DAY

This day is dedicated to showing appreciation for fathers and father figures, including stepfathers, fathers-in-law, foster parents, guardians, and close family friends. There are many ways that we honor our fathers - participate in charity events, watching sports together, giving gifts, sharing meals, sending cards, visiting grave sites.....sending prayers through God.

*F*ather, thank you for  
*A*lways being there for me  
*T*eaching me skills  
*H*aving the biggest heart  
*E*xpecting nothing but giving everything  
*R*eally, you are the best

## Community Events

- June 3<sup>rd</sup>** The Lunch Bunch  
Hosted at the Arnprior Legion  
Ticked to be purchased before May 29<sup>th</sup> for a cost of 15.00  
Entertainment by SALC Band
- June 5<sup>th</sup>** Benefit dance in support of Sandee & Mike  
If you are able to come and support the fundraiser to help Sandee and Mike with cost incurred because of the multi vehicle accident, while on a trip to Ireland.  
Tickets for the evening is \$10.00  
Donations can be given at Sandee Country Kitchen café or you can see Lynn Rosien
- June 14<sup>th</sup>** The Artist & The Muse  
Featuring the Ottawa Chamber Orchestra  
Benefit concert in support of the Arnprior & District Food Bank  
Starting at 3pm at St. John Chrysostom Church  
Tickets available t the Arnprior Publick Library or online at [www.ottawachamberorchestra.com](http://www.ottawachamberorchestra.com)
- June 18<sup>th</sup>** 25<sup>th</sup> Annual BBQ - ABM Seniors at Home Program  
Hosted at the Galilee Centre  
12 noon to 2 pm  
Tickets are \$5.00 and needs to be purchased by June 11<sup>th</sup>.  
Bring your own chairs and hunger  
Entertainment by Aerik Watson





## **PRAYER LIST**

Please include these people in your daily prayers.

Debbie Witt, Rory, Gerald, Stella, Jacqueline, Vicki, Joy, Tere B., Briar & Alicia, Claude, Mary, Claudette

### **Prayers for Others**

If you wish to add / delete a person(s) to the prayer list, please speak to the Pastor Norine.

## **Newsletter Submissions**

Hello everyone, please send any updates or new information you would like to add to the newsletter to Lynn by the 25<sup>th</sup> of each month. Submissions can be sent to Lynn by email at [larosien@hotmail.com](mailto:larosien@hotmail.com) or you can give her a call at 613-621-1966.

