



The Mustard Seed

April 2022

Newsletter

of

*St. John's Evangelical
Lutheran Church*

47 McLachlin St. S., Arnprior
Ontario K7S 2Z1

Pastor:

Rev Norine Gullons: 613 282-5032

Church Office: 613 623-4562

Church Council

Enid Blackwell (Chair)	623-7017
Debbie Witt (Sec'y)	622-1500
Andy Kalnins (Vice)	863-0202
Dave Burkett	618-5729
Rachel Roesner	804-3392
Fred Steinke	298-5017
Pastor Norine	623-4562
Alison Burkett (Treasurer)	618-5716

See us on facebook:

St. John's Lutheran Church Arnprior

On the web: stjohnsarnprior.com

"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 its branches."

Pastor's Message

We have been moving through winter during the Lenten season and now that we are heading into the season of Easter we can enjoy the longer, spring days and rest in God's loving care. I invite you to join us for worship during April. It will be great to greet you on Easter Sunday, as we celebrate the risen Christ! Alleluia!

"I give you a new commandment, that you love one another just as I have loved you." Jesus presented this thought to his disciples the night of his last supper. We enter the season of Easter with that call to love and serve others as best as we can. It is in loving others, in order to build a little kingdom here as we wait for God's great kingdom to come. It is love that changes hearts and minds and deeds. It changes schools, communities, families and congregations. Love changes lives. God loved us enough to change our lives through the saving grace of Jesus Christ.

The good news is that the one who was crucified, Jesus, now lives on for you. This affirmation is unconditional. It is said in the name of the one who already has death behind him, and whose love can therefore be stopped by nothing. The tomb is empty because God wants us to have life!

Chris has died! Christ has risen! Christ will come again! Alleluia!

Pastor Norine

April 2022 Event Schedule

DATE	EVENT
Sunday April 3rd	10:30am— Worship Service of Word and Prayer
Thursday April 7 th	3:00pm—Caregivers Support Group
Saturday April 9 th	9:00am— Men's Breakfast at Jim's
Sunday April 10th	PALM SUNDAY: 10:30am—Worship Service with Holy Communion. Guest Musician: Lynne Zander
	NO MAUNDY THURSDAY WORSHIP THIS YEAR.
Friday, April 15th	GOOD FRIDAY: 10:30am — Worship Service (Guest Musician: Karen Prince (St. James)).
Sunday April 17th	EASTER SUNDAY: 10:30am—Worship Service with Holy Communion. Guest Musician: Lynne Zander
Sunday April 24th	10:30am— Worship Service of Word and Prayer
Monday April 25 th	7:00pm—Church Council
Sunday May 1 st	Hike for Hospice—see Outreach article in Newsletter

Minutes of the March 21st, 2022 Council Meeting

Attendance (ZOOM)

Enid Blackwell
Alison Burkett

David Burkett
Andy Kalnins

Pr. Norine
Debbie Witt

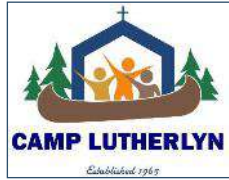
Meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm. Pastor opened with a devotion.

Previous Minutes: Dave moved that the Feb 22nd, 2022 minutes be approved as distributed. Debbie seconded, **CARRIED**.

1. **Election of Officers:** Andy Kalnins nominated Enid Blackwell as chair, Enid Blackwell nominated Debbie Witt to be secretary; and Debbie nominated Alison B as Treasurer. Debbie Witt moved the slate of executive be appointed.
2. **Finance:** Alison presented the February financials. The bottom line improved to be a \$1000 deficit, due mostly to a higher than budgeted property expense (gas usage higher due to Enbridge actually reading the meter as opposed to estimating usage based on last year). Moved by Andy, seconded by Fred S. the financials be accepted as presented, **CARRIED**
3. **Children and Youth.** UNPLUG has resumed with two events for March. Alison is proposing we apply for a grant for a large screen TV for the Lounge.
4. **Church CARD.** Alison reviewed the Welcome to St. John's card, to be delivered to new homes in the area. An UNPLUG flyer will be included. It will also include 50% discount on family week at Camp Lutherlyn. Discussion around the envelopes to deliver the card. Volunteers solicited to deliver – Enid and Debbie volunteered.
5. **Pastor's report:** Bishop Mike at St. James May 15. Pastor to be on Continuing Education May 16-May 24.
6. **COVID Protocols:** Andy presented the task force recommendations - Optional Masks, Distancing, Sanitize. Socials will not be held at this time.
7. **Outreach:** The Outreach Committee is presently made up of Jeff Kargus and Andy Kalnins. Moving forward, an attempt will be made to recruit some more members and some recommendations will be put to Council about goals and direction. There are two short term projects:
 - Ottawa Valley Waterways Clean-up - The Rotary Club of Arnprior will be hosting a river and waterways clean-up on Earth Day (April 23rd) and is looking for support. It would be a good Outreach activity that does not require expense nor liability protection from the church. Likely the simplest way for us to participate would be to simply show up (whether one person or twenty people)
 - Hospice Renfrew - SJL would support this event most likely in Arnprior to save the drive to Renfrew. Participants would do a walk in Robert Simpson Park and contribute to a "jar" as they see fit. First Sunday in May is the date.
8. **Communications:** Enid discussed the activity of posts on facebook, particularly on Ukraine. Synod article on St. James was posted. Some Sunday's service texts were delivered. UNPLUG is on What's Up Arnprior and facebook. Thinking of contacts to shut-ins. Newsletter to be published on April 2nd.
9. **Operations matters:** Discussion around usher duties in the COVID world. Some usher duties may change permanently. Debbie sorting through physical files.
10. **Tech and Property:** A working group is being formed to consider the basement floor project. Discussion around testing of the live service from St. Peter's Kitchener. Andy and Dave will test this on Sunday the 27th.
11. **Other Business:** a) Retreat planning. Checking if Cory still wants to be involved. Jeff was suggested. Try to meet in April (the design team) prior to the April meeting. b) Council Installation is scheduled for March 27th. c) Communion wine? Not until next council meeting. d) Enid testing the young families, whether or not they plan to attend with children in the coming future. e) No plans for resumption of Sunday School yet.

Next meeting: April 25th at 7:00.

St. John's Arnprior
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 norine.e@hotmail.com



P.O. Box 531
 Pembroke, ON K8A 6X7
 March 9, 2022

This letter is to express gratitude to the members and Council of St. John's Arnprior , for your ongoing support for Camp Lutherlyn. Last year (2021), we gratefully received \$170 in donations from the congregation which went to assist us with operating expenses and funding many improvement projects as we're working on bringing the camp back to pristine condition.

To follow us online please visit our website at lutherlyncamp.ca, like us on Facebook at Camp Lutherlyn or follow us on Instagram.

If you have an email address and would like to be added to or contact list for Camp Connections newsletter please email info@lutherlyncamp.ca.

This is a new publication that we will be sending out 4-5 times per year to keep people posted on what we are up to at Camp Lutherlyn.

We are grateful for your support of Camp Lutherlyn.

Janice Verch and Annette Gilchrist on behalf of Camp Lutherlyn

A New Serenity Prayer

By Fr. James Martin, SJ

God, grant me the serenity
 to accept the people I cannot change,
 which is pretty much everyone,
 since I'm clearly not you, God.
 At least not the last time I checked.

And while you're at it, God,
 please give me the courage
 to change what I need to change about myself,
 which is frankly a lot, since, once again,
 I'm not you, which means I'm not perfect.
 It's better for me to focus on changing myself
 than to worry about changing other people,
 who, as you'll no doubt remember me saying,
 I can't change anyway.

Finally, give me the wisdom to just shut up
 whenever I think that I'm clearly smarter
 than everyone else in the room,
 that no one knows what they're talking about
 except me,
 or that I alone have all the answers.

Basically, God,
 grant me the wisdom
 to remember that I'm
 not you.
 Amen.



A prayer from our National Bishop. Please pray as you are able. Consider using this in an upcoming worship service. Pray for the people of Ukraine. Pray for peace.

A Prayer for Ukraine

Loving God, you are our peace.

We pray for peace between Russia and Ukraine.

We pray for the people of Ukraine – those who are forced to flee, those who are trapped and unable to flee, those who are in need of aid, those who have died.

We pray for Ukrainian and Russian soldiers, that they may be moved to lay down their weapons.



We pray for world leaders,
 that they would be led into your
 ways of peace and justice.

We pray for our whole world
 who watches and worries.

God have mercy!



PRAYER LIST



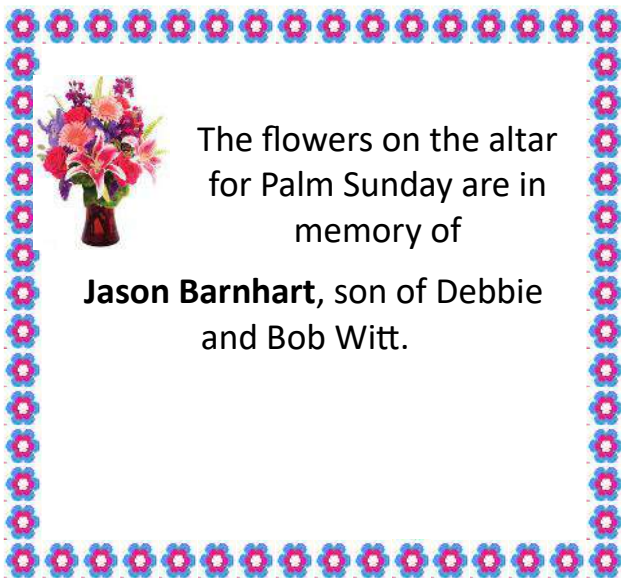
We normally have this list on our Sunday bulletin.
Please pray for these people in your daily prayers:

From our congregation: Ed & Rosemary, Linda & family, Vicki, Jacqueline B., Briar.

Friends of the Parish: Mary K. (Jeff Kargus's mother); Leslie, Tere, Lorraine & Iona B. (Rhonda McTeer's sister and mother); Alivia, Lucille, Kathleen, Kye, Ed (Bob Witt's cousin), Roy (Mel, Lorne & Joyce's brother), Kenny P.

Please continue to pray for PEACE in the Ukraine and an end to the conflict there.

Bless you for believing in the power of prayers. If you wish to add a name to this list, please contact Pastor Norine.



The flowers on the altar for Palm Sunday are in memory of

Jason Barnhart, son of Debbie and Bob Witt.

How to dress for Spring



Outreach



Outreach can be done in many different ways: Sometimes it is good to open up one's wallet to help those in need. Other times it is good to just open one's mind or heart to new ideas and perspectives. We never know where this will take us! But sometimes it is best to roll up one's sleeves to help on on projects that help the community. The Outreach Committee is putting forward for your consideration two thoughts,

The Rotary Club of Arnprior Great Lakes Watershed Clean-up

We all know how precious a resource water is to our very existence. In the second verse, of the first book of Genesis , water is already spoken about. Water is mentioned over 700 times in the Hebrew and Christian Testaments. In the tradition of the many of the Indigenous Peoples of North America our beginnings came from a heroic little muskrat who was the only one courageous enough to dive into the deep water to create Turtle Island. But we have all but squandered this resource. Plastic litters the oceans. Our almonds and avocados are creating deserts. And even in our own backyard of the Ottawa Valley some us are choosing to leave trash on riversides instead of taking the trouble to properly dispose of it.

On Saturday, April 23rd (the day after Earth Day) the Rotary Club of Arnprior is doing a major clean-up along the banks of the Ottawa River. The Rotary Club will be providing all the logistics; direction, tools, bags, and the like. But they are looking for those who are not only willing to roll up their sleeves but in some cases pant legs as well. It would be great for this congregation to provide support for this initiative. All we need do is show up, wear sensible foot wear, and be willing to listen to directions (just like a successful marriage)

Details to Come!

Walk for Hospice

Hospice Renfrew is one of the jewels of the Ottawa Valley. It provides care and support for individuals and families when their fears and anxieties are at their highest levels, None of us want to go there, but we all want the Hospice to be there for us.

On Sunday May 1st , 2022 the Hospice will be holding its "Walk for Hospice" in Renfrew. It is a great event to attend for those able and willing. But we will be hosting a Shadow Walk in Robert Simpson Park the same day at noon (right after service) In early May those interested will get together for a walk around Robert Simpson Park and perhaps into the Grove. Nothing too tough for sure! We will follow-up with a picnic and time for fellowship under the trees, sun, clouds, and sky. There will be zero cost to take part but there will be a collection jar for those interested. All proceeds will go to Hospice Renfrew

Details to Come!



We are so excited to announce that we will be running the following programs this summer!

Children's Overnight Camp

Week 1 July 10-15 • Week 2 July 17-22 • Week 3 July 24-29

Leader in Training Program

July 3-29 (no weekends)

Registration forms are available at www.lutherlyncamp.ca

Camperships are available for **Children's overnight camp**-application forms are available at www.lutherlyncamp.ca

Family Camp

4 Nights August 1-5

Weekend 2 Nights August 5-7

Register by emailing us at lutherlyncamp.ca@gmail.com to reserve your space-pricing depends on your accommodations and how many people are in your group.

Questions?

All programs include swimming, canoeing, games, crafts, campfires, and so much more!
Email your questions to us at info@lutherlyncamp.ca

We are Hiring for Summer 2022:

Waterfront Director-8 weeks

Lifeguards-6 weeks

Counselors-6 weeks

Summer Maintenance-11 weeks

Please apply at www.lutherlyncamp.ca in the Employment section and email your questions to us at info@lutherlyncamp.ca



March UNPLUG Events

Three great events were held in March.

(Sat) Mar 5: **“Field & Forest Snowshoe Social”** at the Blackwell-Hinchley Homestead saw 3 kids (2 under 4 & one aged 8) and a bunch of big kids (i.e. adults) attend. They enjoyed show-shoeing and hot chocolate and camaraderie around the campfire. I heard that the 2.5 year-old managed to do the whole 1.5 km trail with her grandmother!



Mar 20 from 1:00 to 3:00: 5 kids (2 new brothers from Almonte) and their adults met at **“Fortune Farms Sugar Bush”** (in Almonte) and saw maple syrup being made over a wood-fired evaporator by the Shanty Men, and then over old-fashioned kettles with the Kettle Boys. Slim (not!) and Shorty (not!) were the ones we met – we didn’t really talk to Tubby or Curly. They gave us tastes of yummy maple syrup and maple fudge. And, back at the entrance, the kids enjoyed some taffy on the snow. Education about the sugar bush wasn’t a high priority for the kids – they liked running on the trails, climbing snow banks and digging in the snow with sticks they found. Anyway, a good time was had by all! This event attracted kids from ages 3-6.



Mar 27: **“Wilderness Survival - Winter”** at the Zimmerling’s farm saw 3 kids (new to Unplug from Arnprior & Braeside) plus the 3 young Zimmerling kids working on some

new material! This activity appealed to kids ages 5 to 11. Enid reports it was chilly weather but with everyone moving around [& with their UN-PLUG wool socks], it was good. After an introduction by Ryan (support by Zach), groups shoe their survival tools, hunted for a good site and built a shelter from materials found in the forest. Then they built a fire: matches were provided, birch bark, twigs and logs were gathered and laid; and the warmth was enjoyed!



Upcoming UNPLUG Events: April and May UNPLUG events and date are not yet finalized. We are planning: a spring birding walk at High Lonesome Nature Reserve, a trip to the Zimmerling Farm to see baby animals. and planting the community garden. If you’re not on our email list and would like to be (so you’re notified ahead), please let us know at unplug.SJL@gmail.com



St. John's Website

The St. John's website: stjohnsarnprior.com has been given a new look, with new content. If you haven't looked at it lately, please do so. Feedback to Dave is welcome, as is new content.

The following is a **Table of Contents** for the website:

HOME (Announcements / Welcome / Prayer List / Calendar of Events / 2021 video)

SERVICES: (Times / link to videos / announcements)

WATCH A SERVICE: (The links to upcoming and past service videos)

UNPLUG: (Upcoming events and general information)

NEWSLETTERS: (Links to the current and past newsletters)

CONTACT US: (Pastor & Council contact info & way to send us a message)

FACILITY RENTALS: (Rental information / Room descriptions / Photos and Prices)

GALLERY: (Photos of Church Life)

ABOUT US: (Who we are / Mission / Vision / Caring)

INSPIRATIONAL MESSAGES: (variety of videos)

2021 Video (Year in Review video)

CALENDAR: (Events for the next month)

ANNUAL REPORTS: (Last 2 Annual Reports)



Thank You for Annual Meeting Participation and Support

Thanks to all who participated in our Annual Meeting on March 13. We had twice the quorum number present. Though our gathering was somewhat abbreviated due to COVID safety measures, it was an attentive and productive time together, preceded by refreshments. (Thanks for those, Debbie and Jeff Kargus!)

We reviewed 2021 through written reports and discussion, and passed our 2022 budget, including a unified 'commitment' donation approach to jointly support St. John's operations, the broader church, and local and international outreach. We also approved plans for replacing the downstairs floor. Two new and two returning councillors were acclaimed to 2 year terms, joining two others on council. During worship on March 27, council was installed. Those pictured below with Pastor Norine give thanks for your ongoing support and welcome contact from you, as we work together as a caring and sharing faith community.



The 2022 Council

Rachel Roesner, Debbie Witt, Enid Blackwell, Fred Steinke, Andy Kalnins, Pastor Norine and David Burkett. Thanks to Alison Burkett for continuing to fill the Treasurer role.

Thanks to Lorne Rueckwald for the photos



Brotherly team: Greg and Kevin Steinke ring in the gathering.



A bell rings out during the Lord's Prayer.



Kalin Brohart leads in Prayers of the People with mom Melissa Watt by his side.

April 2022



BIRTHDAYS

April 9th—Chloe Zimmerling

April 22nd—Rory Brohart

April 28th—Lois Rosien

ANNIVERSARIES

April 15th—Paul & Paula Mainprize

April 22nd—Mark & Diane Boese

An Added and Different Palm Sunday Experience!

On Palm Sunday, April 10, we worship locally at 10:30 a.m. Please join us, if you can, at St. John's for this service with special live music at the beginning of Holy Week.

As well, on this day, beginning at 10:00 a.m., a Synod-Wide service will be live-streamed on Kitchener Waterloo CTV. It will be available later online, and we may show it on our screen at a date and time to be confirmed. So you will be able to participate in both services, if you wish, to mark Holy Week.

Below are some details about the Synod-Wide worship.

Eastern Synod-Wide Palm Sunday Worship

Bishop Michael, Bishop Susan and the Congregation of St. Peter's, Kitchener invite you to join them for a Synod-Wide Palm Sunday service on April 10 @ 10am. This service will feature rostered and lay participation from across our Synod. In place of palm branches, we invite you to wave textile items which can then be donated to local agencies in your community. Wave socks...receiving blankets...washcloths...bedsheets...towels...or even underwear!



The ELCIC’s National Church Council met virtually from March 4-6, 2022. As part of their work, they issued the following statement:

The Evangelical Lutheran Church in Canada (ELCIC) joins the World Council of Churches, The Lutheran World Federation, and the Canadian Council of Churches in calling for an immediate ceasefire in Ukraine and global solidarity with the people of Ukraine.

We denounce any and every use of deadly armed force to resolve disputes that could be resolved by dialogue. We firmly believe that dialogue – based on the principles of international law and respect for established national borders – was and is the proper path for the resolution of tensions surrounding Ukraine. We call for an immediate end to the current armed hostilities, and for the protection of all human lives and communities threatened by this violence.

The ELCIC through its partnership with Canadian Lutheran World Relief calls on its members **to support the Ukraine.**

We ask all members, congregations and related agencies to examine their financial investments to ensure they do not support Russian investments.

We urge all members and all people of good will around the world to join us in prayer for peace for the people of Ukraine and the region.

Loving God, you are our peace. We pray for peace between Russia and Ukraine. We pray for the people of Ukraine – those who are forced to flee, those who are trapped and unable to flee, those who are in need of aid, those who have died. We pray for Ukrainian and Russian soldiers, that they may be moved to lay down their weapons. We pray for world leaders, that they would be led into your ways of peace and justice. We pray for our whole world who watches and worries. God have mercy!

PRESERVING CHILDREN

- | | |
|--------------------|----------------|
| 1 large field | Trees |
| 1 or more children | Flowers |
| A few dogs | Rocks |
| Goat (optional) | Pond or stream |
| Grass | Sunshine |

Mix the children with the dogs and goats. Add next four ingredients. Pour onto field near water. Cover all with sunshine. Add a little rain or snow for variety. Bake the children under the sun until memories are made. Set them away in the bathtub to cool. Serve them dinner, read them a story, and tuck them into bed.



Following prayerful consideration at its March 2022 meeting, the ELCIC's National Church Council (NCC) made the decision to hold the 2022 ELCIC National Convention as a virtual online gathering to conduct essential business of the church and to hold a special in-person convention in 2023 to allow time for a fuller gathering experience.

While many places across the country are starting to open up, NCC members expressed concern for planning requirements and overall comfort-level of delegates who may be anxious about travel and large-group gatherings.

"The final decision was made in the best interest of the health and safety for all who would be part of our upcoming convention – delegates, staff, volunteers and visitors," said ELCIC National Bishop Susan Johnson.

The ELCIC is required to have a convention every three years, with the time and place determined by NCC.

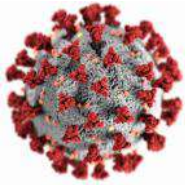
"Holding convention online this year and a special convention next year allows us to ensure that we meet this year to conduct the business of the church," explained Bishop Johnson. "This decision also allows for what we hope will be an opportunity to meet together next year and fully enjoy all the various components of convention that really make us feel like we are coming together as church, such as in-person worship, singing, and fellowship. This feels like the right decision for this moment."

Further details will be available in the coming weeks as planning progresses. Delegates are asked to hold July 15-16, 2022 in their calendars for the online gathering. As per Part VII, Section 20 of the ELCIC Administrative Bylaws, delegates to the regular convention will also be delegates to the special convention in 2023.

Earlier this year a [decision was made to postpone Assembly 2022](#), which was intended to be a gathering of both the ELCIC and the Anglican Church of Canada's governing bodies. Discussions are continuing to look for an opportunity to come together and lift up the 20th anniversary of the Waterloo Declaration and celebrate our full communion relationship.

A Delegate FAQ for National Convention is available here:

<https://elcic.ca/national-convention/>



CURRENT COVID PROTOCOLS

COVID Protocols as of March 21st 2022

1. Sign In is still required
2. Hand sanitizer will still be available and the use of it will be encouraged
3. Masking will be optional
4. The distancing separation in the pews will remain until at least Easter (we will re-view prior to Easter Sunday)
5. Full voice singing and speaking will be allowed
6. We will recommend that people should still try and do socializing outside the church
7. No social hour after Service at this time.

VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR APRIL 2022

DATE	READING	ALTAR	USHERS	COUNTERS	BUILDING & GROUNDS
April 3 rd	Mark Boese	Beryl & Keith	Beryl & Keith	Elmer & Marion	Gerald
April 10 th	Joy Statham	Beryl & Keith	Beryl & Keith	Elmer & Marion	Gerald
April 15 th	Readers in Roles	Beryl & Keith	Beryl & Keith	Elmer & Marion	Gerald
April 17 th	Cathy/Randy Zimmerling	Beryl & Keith	Beryl & Keith	Elmer & Marion	Gerald
April 24 th	Rachel Roesner & Thomas	Beryl & Keith	Beryl & Keith	Elmer & Marion	Gerald
May 1 st	Andy Kalnins	Jo Anne & Lorne	Debbie & Bob Witt	Debbie & Bob Witt	Gerald