



The Mustard Seed

June 2020

The Monthly Newsletter of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

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

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Church Council

Ryan Zimmerling (Chair)	622-5939
Randy Zimmerling	623-9733
Jeff Kargus	623-0192
Dave Burkett	618-5729
Cory Weckwerth	793-3701
Enid Blackwell	623-7017

Pastor's Message

Greetings to our faith communities, family and friends,

I love the month of June! It is (normally) such a social month with graduations, the end of school, weddings, birthday parties, reunions, anniversaries and summer plans in the making. This June will be totally different than "usual", just as every week is now, during this in-between-time. We look ahead to a ***new normal, not a return to normal.***

Our Synod office is in touch with all Pastors (active & retired) now more than ever. Our dear **Bishop Michael Pryse & Rev. Doug Reble** (assistant to the Bishop) meet the area Pastors on line using ZOOM once a month to check in and see how things are with us, our families, and our congregations. We are in the Ottawa Valley Area. There are 17 such areas in our Eastern Synod. I know that this pastoral ministry to the Pastors is keeping them busy along with all the other issues that the Synod office oversees. We are grateful for this contact.

During our last gathering online Bishop asked us to read an article by Nathan Kirkpatrick –Managing Director of Leadership Education at Duke University. We reflected on 3 questions together regarding "church" and I am asking you to think about these same questions too. Those of you who join me on June 18h for a ZOOM chat please have your thoughts ready. Don't forget church is about the people! If you are not chatting with us June 18, please send me your thoughts by email.

1. What do we know we will continue with when things return?
2. What might we NOT need to bring back when things change again?
3. What dreams and hopes for church are emerging?

Continued over ->

"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."

Matthew 13:31-32

Pastor's Message, continued

It seems that every 500 years the church universal re-forms itself. It is time now for that new re-formation! *I quote Bishop Pryse*, "Each Pentecost Sunday, (May 31) as the party is ended and the candles are extinguished, we are sent forth to help fulfil God's birthday wish for the world! In part, that involves becoming a more visible sign of the kingdom's wonderful diversity. It means expanding the circle and grasping hands that have previously been spurned. It means going beyond the safety of our comfortable definitions of who is in and who is out, and to follow the light of God's presence to whomever and wherever that light might take us. May God grant us the faith and courage to make that journey." *See Eastern Synod website –Bishop's note on the homepage.*

Sincerely, Pastor Norine +

JUNE Worship for St. John & St. James

Readers:

- June 14 Mark Boese
- June 21 Zach Zimmerling
- June 28 Andy Kalnins

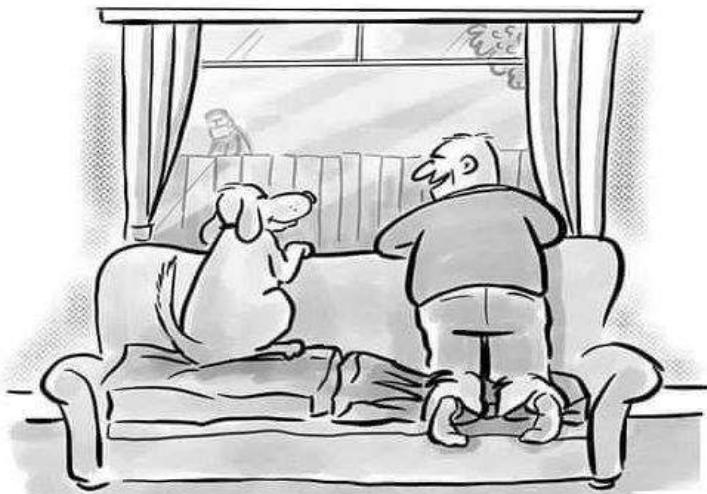
There will be a print copy of my weekly meditation posted on our respective Facebook pages and websites and sent out by email.

Of course you are welcome to explore other sites, as listed on the ELCIC website.

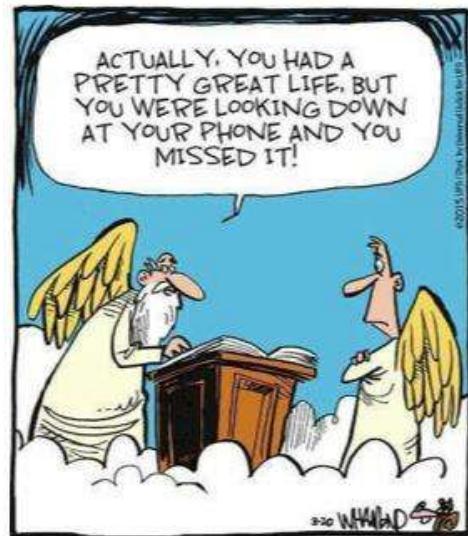
**June 18 - 8pm
ZOOM evening coffee & chat
with P+Norine**

This is an internet platform which is a video chat where you all can see and hear each other. You will be sent an invitation by email with a link to click onto. Once you click on the link, there will be instructions to follow. You do not need to create or have an account to participate in the chat. *This is a really fun way to stay in touch!*

See you June 18 ~ P+Norine



"Until now, I never understood why you got so excited when someone walked past the house."



June Event Calendar

	June 4-10th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Pastor Norine on Holidays. Please call the office should you need pastoral care.
Sunday	June 7 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday Service/Sermon—Script provided.
Saturday	June 13 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Arnprior Lutherans Road-side cleanup—see ad.
Sunday	June 14 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Sunday Service/Sermon via YouTube video.
Wednesday	June 17 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7pm conference call: Church Council for St. James.
Thursday	June 18 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 8pm ZOOM Coffee and Chat with Pastor Norine—Both Churches.
Saturday	June 20 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 10am: ZOOM Annual General Meeting for Lutherlyn Camp & Conference Centre. Email: info@LutherlynCamp.ca to register your attendance.
Sunday	June 21 st	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Father's Day—Sunday Service/Sermon via YouTube video.
Sunday	June 28 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Canada Day Service—Sunday Service/Sermon via YouTube video—wear something red & white. The singing of O Canada.
Monday	June 29 th	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 7:30pm St. John's Church Council via ZOOM.
	NOTES:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> June 4-10: Please call the office should you need pastoral care. ZOOM is an internet video chat system that many organizations are using these days for meetings. St. John's Church Council will not meet over the summer unless a need arises.



Mrs. Jones got a little too used to watching online worship from home.



Council Meeting Minutes

May 18, 2020

Attendance (via phone Conference)

Ryan Zimmerling	David Burkett	Pr. Norine
Enid Blackwell	Jeff Kargus	Randy Zimmerling
Cory Weckwerth		

1. Meeting was called to order at 7:30 and Pastor opened with devotions and a prayer.

2. **Previous Minutes:**

Ryan moved the minutes be approved as published, Dave seconded. **CARRIED**

3. **Pastor's report:**

- a. Pastor presented her activity report. Pastor is attending a week-long seminar on preaching.
- b. Pastor is taking a week of holidays June 4-11.
- c. Worship schedule – readers to record themselves – 2 Sundays June 21st June 28th – perhaps youth for fathers' day.
- d. Prayer List was updated – to be sent out again.
- e. Discussion around adding 3rd service in June 14th
- f. DVD's are not being produced at this point.

4. **Finance:**

- a. Even though we had unusual revenue last year, we are roughly at the same position.
- b. Opportunity to apply for grant due to reduction in income. For the first period, it appears that we may qualify for the 75% subsidy due to more than a 15% drop during this period. We need to properly account for the revenue to ensure correct eligibility.
- c. Synod request for communication regarding request to lobby the government regarding loss of fundraising opportunities. Recommending that Enid, Pastor and Randy rework the communication, and are nearly ready to send out. Randy moved that the Letter that Enid reworked be reviewed by Pastor then sent out. Ryan Seconded, **CARRIED** (To be shared with council prior).
- d. Now have E-Transfer capability (thanks to Jeff for his help).
- e. Banking: Cannot transfer GIC prior to maturity date (restriction due to COVID).

5. **Outreach:**

- a. Jeff has the compassionate justice grant application form.
- b. Still volunteering with Food Bank when requested. Randy and Cathy back him up.

6. **Property:**

- a. Randy reported that the Town has deferred the Alicia project until next year. They reported that they have no record or photos of our hookup. Randy talked to the individual who did the work around our foundation. Other members of the congregation are seeking out further information.
- b. An enormous thank you to those who continue to go into the Church every day to check on things.
- c. Question regarding the grass cutting – Pastor will reach out to some members of the congregation.
- d. Discussion regarding foundation -on hold pending the town, COVID etc.

7. **Marketing:**

- a. Enid asked if we are planning for the BIG Give cleanup? Randy suggested we go ahead with the cleanup on June 13rd cleanup activity. Limit to 10 participants.
- b. Enid will post the Mental Health info on Facebook.
- c. Pastor forwarded her interview (on Inside Ottawa Valley) to the Bishop.
- d. The May 9th service video was watched by 47 people, for a total of 7.6 hours of viewing time.

8. **Other Business:**

- a. Pastor talked about the plan of this newsletter to include pictures and stories of youth activities – number of outreach message to encourage this.
- b. Discussion around when our services might restart. Waiting for direction from Synod and results from Alberta resuming services.

Adjournment: 9:25

June 2020

Birthdays



June 2nd Henry Rosien
June 3rd—Gladys Buder
June 6th—Pastor Norine
June 14th—Cory Weckwerth
June 15th—Anda Kalnins
June 17—Eric Obst
June 23rd—Bob Hinchley
June 23rd—Shane Zimmerling
June 24th—Kaleigh Craig

Anniversaries

June 24th—Barbara & Gerald Formuziewich
June 29th—Cathy & Randy Zimmerling

Thank you!

A word of thanks to teachers in our congregation:

*Debbie Kargus and
Linda Roberts*



How I go to the woods

Ordinarily, I go to the woods alone, with not a single friend, for they are all smilers and talkers and therefore unsuitable.

I don't really want to be witnessed talking to the catbirds or hugging the old black oak tree. I have my way of praying, as you no doubt have yours.

Besides, when I am alone I can become invisible. I can sit on the top of a dune as motionless as an uprise of weeds, until the foxes run by unconcerned. I can hear the almost unhearable sound of the roses singing.

If you have ever gone to the woods with me, I must love you very much."

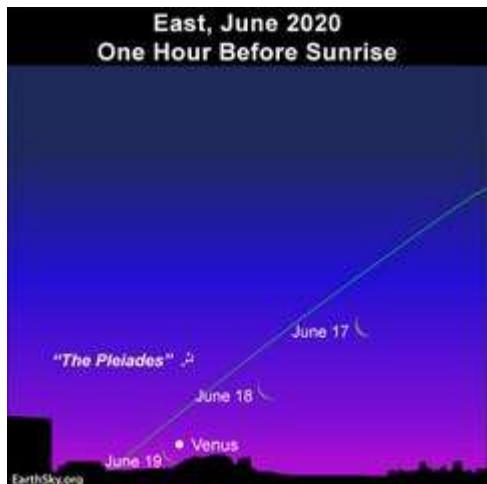
— Mary Oliver, Swan: Poems and Prose Poems

Astronomy Corner—Andy Kalnins

"So the sun stood still, and the moon stopped, till the nation avenged itself on its enemies, as it is written in the Book of Jashar. The sun stopped in the middle of the sky and delayed going down about a full day."

The above passage from the Book of Joshua talks of how the army of Israel needed extra time to make waste of some highly inconvenient people in their way, so the Lord actually granted an extra full day of sun. I will leave it to those with liturgical training to explain this, but certainly we are all being granted more hours of daylight in each passing day this month. On Saturday June 20th we observe the Summer Solstice. On that day we get 15 hours 40 minutes 24 seconds of sunlight. Contrast that with the 8 hours 42 minutes 52 seconds that we will get on December 21st. So let's use this gift of light for many things, but perhaps not for smiting our enemies.

Last month Venus was a very bright evening star and now by mid June it is suddenly a bright morning star. How did that happen? Well Venus is zipping around the sun, just like the earth. Most of this year is was, from our view, trailing the sun, but now it has suddenly moved in front to the sun. We see Venus rise and only then it is followed by the sun.



It is worth getting up early on the mornings of June 17, 18, and 19. The waning crescent moon will be doing an intricate dance with Venus, becoming very, very close on the 19th. Our friends in Atlantic Canada would actually see the moon cover up Venus, but we are too far west to see that. It will be tough to see but I am going to give it a whirl. And just a note of interest; you may see a little fuzzy patch of stars above the moon. That is the Pleiades - part of the winter constellation Taurus the Bull. Yep, winter is coming

The moon on the 19th will be a tough to see sliver as it disappears into the morning sky and it is an old and aging moon as it sinks below the horizon. But fear not! It comes back as the New Moon on Sunday the 21st. See if you can be the first to spot it!!

They're Back! Those wonderful **Church Bulletins!** Thank God for the church ladies with typewriters. These sentences actually appeared in church bulletins or were announced at church services:

- **Scouts are saving aluminum cans, bottles and other items to be recycled. Proceeds will be used to cripple children.**
- **The sermon this morning: 'Jesus Walks on the Water. The sermon tonight: 'Searching for Jesus.'**
- **Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.**
- **Pot-luck supper Sunday at 5:00 PM - prayer and meditation to follow.**
- **Miss Charlene Mason sang 'I will not pass this way again,' giving obvious pleasure to the congregation.**
- **Don't let worry kill you off - let the Church help.**

Tidbits from our younger families

Pastor asked the younger families in our congregation to send in photos or stories of their children doing some “spring” things, outdoors or indoors. Here are some of their submissions.



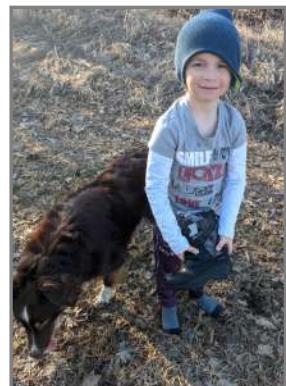
From the Roesner Family



Dressed for Easter Dinner



Rory and Kalin Brohart: children of Nathan and Melissa , daughter of Maxine Zimmerling.



From Shaundra Craig

Kaleigh and I planted our bring back the bees sunflower seeds yesterday. Just praying the cat wont get into the container in the house.

We are fortunate to be friends and neighbours with Amanda Gillespie. She is the owner of Limestone Acres Farm. She sets up at the Arnprior Market but who knows this year when that will start. They lost their bees in the fall so they will have to start over again. Her honey is delicious as well as all of her homemade products. So I told her we were planting more flowers to bring back the bees. She loved it! We also just helped her till a new spot for her garden so she can plant more at home. I have enjoyed helping a friend in need in this time.



Kaleigh Craig—granddaughter of
Cathy & Rick Frivalt

Tidbits from our younger families, continued

Grandchildren of organist Karen & Bob Prince.
Parents are Justin & Pamela Bunter.



Cameron & Nolan Bunter with the sunflowers, tomatoes and strawberries they are growing



Caleb Boese, son of Mark and Diane Boese, completed his 3 year program in electrical engineering at Algonquin College this spring! Proud parents, for sure!

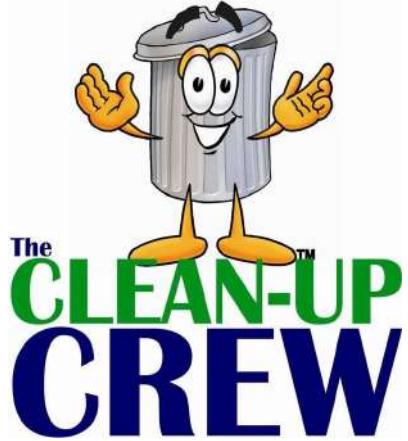


#socialdistancing



**FOR THE SECOND PART OF
THIS QUARANTINE DO WE
HAVE TO STAY WITH THE
SAME FAMILY OR THEY'RE
GOING TO RELOCATE US?
ASKING FOR A FRIEND**

BIG GIVE 2020



Hello there!

The St. John's Cleanup Crew is inviting you to a fun filled Divison Street ditch cleanup on Saturday June 13 at 8:30 a.m. in support of the BIG GIVE in Arnprior. If you would like to participate, please contact Jeff for details 613-623-0192 or jeff.kargus@hotmail.com no later than Friday June 12.

Note: We will be practicing social distancing to keep everyone safe!

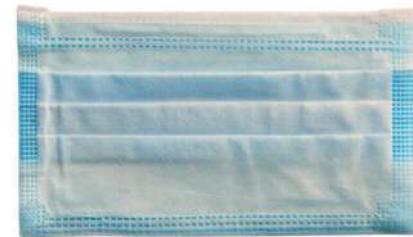
Not all heroes wear capes... but a whole dedicated bunch of them wear scrubs.



**NEVER IN MY
WILDEST DREAMS
DID I IMAGINE
I'D GO UP TO
A BANK TELLER
WITH A MASK ON
ASKING FOR MONEY.**



**CANADIAN
RED CROSS**



3 -ply disposable face masks are being sold at all Giant Tiger locations.



A portion of all proceeds
goes to support the
Canadian Red Cross

19.97

**DISPOSABLE 3-PLY FACE MASKS
WITH EAR LOOPS, PACK OF 20**

[SHOP>](#)

New NORMAL or New ABNORMAL

- Breaking News: Wearing a mask inside your home is now highly recommended. Not so much to stop COVID-19, but to stop eating.
- When this quarantine is over, let's not tell some people
- I stepped on my scale this morning. It said: "Please practice social distancing. Only one person at a time on scale."
- Not to brag, but I haven't been late to anything in over 6 weeks.
- It may take a village to raise a child but I swear its going to take a vineyard to home school one.
- The spread of Covid-19 is based on two things:
 1. How dense the population is. 2. How dense the population is.
- Okay, the schools are closed. So do we drop the kids off at the teacher's house or what?
- People keep asking: "Is coronavirus REALLY all that serious?" Listen y'all, the churches and casinos are closed. When heaven and hell agree on the same thing it's probably pretty serious.

Enjoy your day. You don't have anything else to do.