



The Mustard Seed September 2020

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

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

Pastor:

Norine Gullons 613-282-5032
Church Office: 613-623-4562

Church Council

Randy Zimmerling	623-9733
Jeff Kargus	623-0192
Dave Burkett	618-5729
Cory Weckwerth	793-3701
Enid Blackwell	623-7017

Pastor's Message

"See you in September"

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=cy0kNX5xrnE>

was a song that was always played at the June proms, dances, and graduations, during my 1970's high school years. I attended a rural high school where 9/10 of the school population were bused in and out every day. So one might NOT see a certain friend again till September. Not everyone had access or owned cars. Mostly just the guys! It was a small high school so eventually everyone knew who everyone was. Of course one could hop onto one's bicycle and ride to meet friends at the local park or even at the quarry. The quarry, was exactly half way between our subdivision and the town that housed the high school. (I guess such an activity is not allowed today)

Why am I going on about this memory?

As a faith family we too have been separated not just by summer school holidays but by a concern to stay safe. Both St. James & St. Johns Task Force Teams are working now to protect the health and well-being of all who may come to our church buildings this fall. We desire to have people feel safe and comfortable enough as we gather together, and to mitigate the spread of the C-19 virus.

So I hope to "see you in September" or at some point this fall, inside or outside! **Please see the newsletter notice for our first gathering - 11a.m. Sunday September 13th Service on the lawn at the Church.** We all miss the gathering of our faith families, just as much as we miss members of our personal families and friends.

So "be watchful, stand firm in your faith, be courageous, be strong, and let all that you do be done in love." 1 Corinthians 16:13

God IS with you! Sincerely, Pastor Norine

"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

September Worship Schedule

DATE	EVENT
Sept 6 th	YouTube Service with Holy Communion
Sept 10 th	Area Lutheran Pastors meet 9:30—1pm Location TBA
Sept 13 th 11:00 am	Rally Sunday Service; blessing of the backpacks; service of word & prayer; individual family picnics; distanced fellowship all on the Church Lawn. See ad in the newsletter.
Sept 19 th	Fall clean- up day at Camp Lutherlyn. See notice in the Newsletter.
Sept 20 th	YouTube Worship Service of Word & Prayer
Sept 21 st	12 noon quiet celebration for International day of peace outside at Galilee Centre.
Sept 21 st	Church Council meets at 7:00 pm
Sept 27 th	YouTube Worship Service of Word & Prayer

PRAYER LIST



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



From both congregations: Ed & Rosemary, Lucas and family, Leonard B., Joe & Shelley, Annie, Joan.

Friends of the Parish: Leslie, Ron K., Tere B., Lorraine, Chris & Kathy T., Barb L., Joyce S., Rev. Julio Romero, (ELCIC Pastor in Niagara Falls).

PLEASE ALSO PRAY for all returning to educational pursuit - students, teachers, and staff, & parents who are now teaching at home.

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



Council Meeting Minutes

June 29th, 2020

Attendance (via phone Conference)

Cory Weckwerth	David Burkett	Pr. Norine
Guest: Lorne R.	Jeff Kargus	Randy Zimmerling

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

1. Re-opening Task Force – Lorne Rueckwald

Lorne Rueckwald presented a very comprehensive report from the re-opening task force. The report defined the procedures we will need to follow and some work that needs to take place before we can re-open.

2. Pastor’s report:

- a. Pastor outlined the proposal for the Sept 11th, WABA cottage worship service. (subsequently changed to be on the **Church Lawn**). We will need audio & video equipment. Dave to handle.
- b. Pastor presented the Worship Schedule for September
- c. Council agreed to provide Pastor with all necessary tools in order to do her job.

3. Finance:

- a. Randy presented the P&L, Balance Sheet and comparison to budget.
- b. Finances in good shape – reflects all the good work of Pastor Norine and council maintaining contacts with the congregation and the tremendous support we are receiving from the congregation.

4. Communications:

- a. Enid presented her report outlining: Facebook activity, thank-you letters, preparing newsletter materials, phone calls and emails, liaising with township re Waba Cottage and Galilee, co-ordination re camp Sunday and contact with family re Life Celebration.
- b. Dave reported on YouTube postings (averaging 40 views per service) and proposal for next step for AV. Approved purchase of new camera \$500.

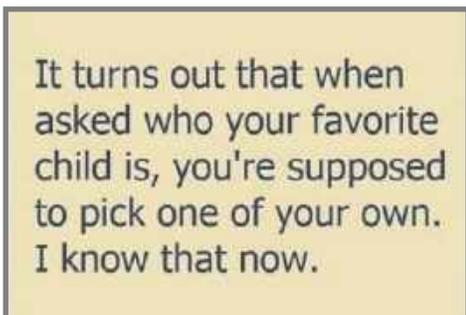
5. Outreach:

Not much activity re Food Bank – Jeff is in contact, and will start next week again, volunteering. Will apply for the Synod Grant for the Snack-Pak program. Jeff is taking a week shift looking after the garden at the United Garden for the Food Bank.

6. Property:

- b. Problems with water in Furnace room – unknown origin.
- c. Gerald and Randy continue to closely monitor the building.

Adjournment at 9:40



September 2020



Birthdays



Sept 5th—Gwen Steinke

Sept 5th—Jessica Elliot

Sept 7th—Rhonda McTeer

Sept 11th—Cathy Frivalt

Sept 18th—Beryl Richardson

Sept 29th—Dave Burkett

Anniversaries

Sept 4th—Bob & Debbie Witt

Sept 6th—Henry & Lois Rosien

Sept 12th—Rick & Cathy Frivalt

Sept 29th—Elmer & Marion Leek



I came across this poem this morning, written in 1869, reprinted during the 1919 Pandemic and here we are once again. by Kathleen O'Mara:

And people stayed at home
 And read books
 And listened
 And they rested
 And did exercises
 And made art and played
 And learned new ways of being
 And stopped and listened
 More deeply
 Someone meditated, someone prayed
 Someone met their shadow
 And people began to think differently
 And people healed.
 And in the absence of people who
 Lived in ignorant ways
 Dangerous, meaningless and heartless,
 The earth also began to heal
 And when the danger ended and
 People found themselves
 They grieved for the dead
 And made new choices
 And dreamed of new visions
 And created new ways of living
 And completely healed the earth
 Just as they were healed.

A photographer on vacation was inside a church taking photographs when he noticed a golden telephone mounted on the wall with a sign that read '\$10,000 per call'. The U.S.A.'er, being intrigued, asked a priest who was strolling by what the telephone was used for.

The priest replied that it was a direct line to heaven and that for \$10,000 you could talk to God.

The U.S.A.'er thanked the priest and went along his way.

Next stop was in Atlanta. There, at a very large cathedral, he saw the same golden telephone with the same sign under it. He wondered if this was the same kind of telephone he saw in Orlando and he asked a nearby nun what its purpose was. She told him that it was a direct line to heaven and that for \$10,000 he could talk to God. 'O.K., thank you,' said the U.S.A.'er.

He then traveled to Indianapolis, Washington DC, Philadelphia and Boston. In every church he saw the same golden telephone with the same '\$10,000 per call' sign under it.

The U.S.A.'er, upon leaving Vermont decided to travel up to Canada to see if Canadians had the same phone. He arrived in Canada and again, in the first church he entered, there was the same golden telephone, but this time the sign under it read '40 cents per call.' The U.S.A.'er was surprised so he asked the priest about the sign. 'Father, I've traveled all over USA, and I've seen this same golden telephone in many churches. I'm told that it is a direct line to Heaven, but in the US the price was \$10,000 per call.

Why is it so cheap here? The priest smiled and answered, 'You're in Canada now, son ... it's a local call.'

Astronomy Corner—Andy Kalnins

And God said, “Let there be lights in the vault of the **sky** to separate the day from the night, and let them serve as signs to mark sacred times, and days and years,

He wasn't kidding. ... The Nile has flooded every year since there was a Nile River (there is no sense being in denial about that get it - Dee Nile....) . Early risers will have no problem seeing the great constellation of Orion rising in the east before the sun and the Hunter is followed by the faithful dog Canis Major. This constellation has the very bright star Sirius in it (more on that in a few months). The ancient Egyptians meticulously scanned the sky, and as soon as they saw Sirius rise in the morning sky they knew it was time to skedaddle, because the flood was coming. So indeed, the words of the scripture above rang true. As the sun rises and bleaches the ink of the night sky get outside and look for Sirius. Would you have been able to dodge the floodwaters?

The Planets

As the sky darkens in the evening look to the south and you will see a pair of asymmetric eyes staring back at you. The brighter is Jupiter and the dimmer is Saturn. What would have the ancient shepherds have pondered as they looked at this pair of planets? They would have noticed that for the first bit of this month the pair is traveling apart but they they will move closer to each other with each passing night. In December, just a few days before Christmas they will closer together than in the last 20 years. A spectacular conjunction of two bright objects that together almost make a bright star ; what could that mean on December 21st? But we are getting ahead of ourselves - check out these two giant planets on September 24 and September 25th - see how they dance with the moon.

Early risers cannot miss Venus; rising a full two hours before the sun, it shines like a beacon in the east north east. See how long you can see it after the sun rises. Our shepherds would have noticed that each successive morning the rise of Venus is lower and lower in the sky. It is headed to being an evening star, but not until March, so lots of mornings to go.

Mars rises in the east about half an hour into darkness and it is really best viewed after midnight, but even before that the bright orange glow is unmistakable. Mars will be getting brighter every successive night for a while and be sure to look at it this Friday and Saturday as it flirts with the moon; it looks like they are going to touch and in some parts of the world it will look just like that. But here in Renfrew County it will just be a Close Encounter.

Speaking of the Moon; Our Full Moon this month was in the wee hours of September 2 and the colloquial name for it is the Corn Moon. The Harvest Moon this year is on October 1st. It has to do with the timing of full moons and the Autumnal Equinox. This year, the sun shines parks itself at noon right above the equator on September 21st. So , compared to daylight, we have aequus nox as the Romans would have said, or equal night as we would say logically , or equinox as some linguist decided. (The night and day are not precisely equal here in the O Valley for reasons of refraction and latitude but that is a trivial matter)

I hope everybody saw at least a glimpse of this summer's comet and saw at least a few meteors. The night sky never is boring.





Elfriede Meindl (Vögele)

August 17, 2020

Dear Synod Family:

Elfriede Meindl, dear wife of our beloved brother and colleague, the late Rev. Rolf Meindl, passed away peacefully and surrounded by her family at Christie Gardens, Toronto, on Monday, August 17th, 2020 at the age of 94 years. She was pre-deceased by her husband, Rev. Rolf Meindl, in 2012.

She is survived by her daughters, Susan Meindl (Andrew Waxman), Patricia Meindl, Carol Meindl (John Gyakum); her son, Rolf Meindl (Maria); and her grandchildren, Izzy and Laurie Waxman, Tim and James Gyakum and Douby Meindl.

A huge thank you goes out to the staff at Christie Gardens for the excellent care she received.

Elfriede and her husband Rolf came to Toronto from Germany in 1951 to start a new life and family. They moved to Nova Scotia in 1966 when Rolf became pastor of Trinity Lutheran church in New Germany, Lunenburg Co. It was in Nova Scotia that she discovered her natural talent for creating white china figurines of fishermen, farmers and nursery rhymes, using simple household tools such as a darning needle, tea strainer and rolling pin. Her figurines quickly became sought-after gifts and collectables which are still treasured in thousands of homes in Nova Scotia and all over the world. Lines would form to purchase her "Meindl Originals" when she exhibited at local craft markets such as Christmas at the Forum, The Dalplex and the Lunenburg Craft Market. Her work was recognised by the provincial government and in the 1970's and 80's "Meindl Figurines" were kept constantly on hand by the Nova Scotia Protocol office, as truly unique hand-crafted Nova Scotian gifts that could be offered when provincial leaders travelled or entertained. She also received several prestigious commissions from the province to create china sculptures based on local legends to be presented by the Nova Scotian government on ceremonial occasions such as the visit of the Governor General, Jules Leger in 1975, the Royal visits of the Queen Mother in 1979, and Prince Charles and Princess Diana in 1983. Mrs. Meindl continued to make figurines until she was well into her 70's, when she decided to write and illustrate a series of three children's novels; "Christopher", "The Adventures of Christopher and Angeline," and "The Magic Stone," published by Gaspereau Press. This trilogy of books can still be found in elementary school libraries around the province. After her husband died, life in her beloved home on the Fundy shore became too isolating and in 2015 she closed a personal circle, returning to Toronto where she lived close to children and grandchildren, continuing to be creative, drawing and painting, right into the last months of her life.

Elfriede Meindl was truly "an original" who will be missed by all who knew her. A memorial ceremony is planned for next summer. Donations in her memory can be made to Mazon Canada, a national food bank funding organization or Holy Trinity Anglican Church in Middleton. More of Mrs. Meindl's story can be read and condolences may be posted on the Meindl Figurines website: meindlfigurines.ca

"Lord, now you let your servant go in peace for my eyes have seen your salvation." Luke 2:29

Faithfully yours,



Randolph (Randy) Andrew Jahn

Randolph Andrew Jahn, fondly known as Randy, passed away in Arnprior and District Hospital on August 26th, 2020. He was born on November 20th, 1961 and left us at the young age of 58.

Randy was the son of Irvin and Henrietta (Zoschke), brother to Carol Ann (Ed Chippior) of Wilno, Ont. and predeceased by brother Glen. He will be greatly missed by his two children Andrew (Natalie) and Jenna (James Lockwood) as well as his partner Donna Robillard and her two children Melanie and Michelle Nickless (Craig).

Randy was a long time member of St. John's Lutheran Church, Arnprior where he was baptized and confirmed. A great friend to all, especially to his children Andrew and Jenna, he was unselfish and ready to help where needed. Randy was raised on the family farm and cherished his time there until his death.



Alison Russell

Alison left this life peacefully on August 13, 2020, with a loved partner and sister nearby, in the Sunshine Coast area of BC. Also nearby in spirit were some of her Ontario family, her grandfather Eric Obst, uncle Jeff and partner Diane and cousin Derek. For over 20 of her 46 years here, Alison lived with Von Hippel-Lindau syndrome, a rare disease, that meant multiple surgeries for benign spine and brain tumours.

As Eric recounts, while Alison was often in his and our thoughts and prayer time because of severe health issues, she led a very fulfilling and connected life, and made many friends well beyond her early childhood with mom Caroline in the Arnprior area. She went on to live in Edmonton, and then Vancouver, where, as a young woman she spent 15 years working at the Bay in the 'senior' women's department – a job she loved as she had a great affinity for relating well with the 'elderly' crowd. There, she also made new, good friends as she lived and worked with many in the Chinese Canadian community. Later life took her to the Gibsons area of the Sunshine Coast, where her keen environmental interests involved working in a market garden and goat farm, and delivering produce and goat dairy products locally. Alison, along with others in the small town, got to know the friendly production and acting crew of the Beachcombers, a show some of us will remember fondly. In early August, many of Alison's Sunshine Coast friends celebrated her life, and she was very thankful for that gathering.

Please remember Eric, and Alison's immediate and extended family here, in this time of loss and grateful remembering.



Sunday, September 13th — 11:00 am

All Are Invited to Our

Rally Sunday Service



Service of Word and Prayer with Blessing of the Backpacks

Please Note:

COVID RULES WILL APPLY TO THIS GATHERING

- ⇒ Arrive by 10:30-10:45 a.m. to settle in before service
- ⇒ The Church will be open for access to washrooms
- ⇒ Pre-register with Randy Zimmerling by FRIDAY, SEPTEMBER 11th at 613-623-9733 or by email at randyzimmerling@hotmail.com
- ⇒ Bring Your Own – lawn chair, picnic lunch and sun canopy if you have one

Please note that the previously planned service at Waba Cottage had to be cancelled due to a planned power outage in the area.

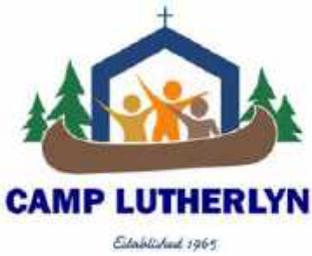


CHRISTMAS BAZAAR



2020 Bazaar

With re-opening, it's time to plan our annual Christmas Bazaar. On debriefing last year, we decided to move it forward to Saturday November 14. We'll form a team again to plan for the Bazaar, especially in light of COVID. More details will follow but meanwhile, start saving items for the Bazaar; we'll also use items that were donated for the cancelled Yard Sale.



CAMP LUTHERLYN FALL WORK DAY September 19th

Our camp fall work day will be held Saturday, September 19, approximately 9:00 a.m. start. Daryl will serve a fabulous lunch. (COVID pre-cautions will be taken.) The following are the options for what you work on. You are welcome to stay overnight at camp on Friday and/or Saturday (several people will). There will be a celebratory campfire on Hoffman Beach Sat night. Let Randy or Alison know if you're coming for the work day and if you're staying over.

Where		Tasks	What to Bring
Hoffman Beach		Clean up beach for 2020 re-opening for camp use!	Garden rakes, work gloves, anything useful to clear underbrush
Main Camp/ Bancroft Beach		Get camp ready for winter – lots of tasks. Paint inside of St. John's cabin? Carpentry jobs?	Work gloves, painting equipment, carpentry tools.



Church Opening for In Person Worship Services



When will we open?

No date has been set yet. Our hope and expectation is that we would be able to resume in person worship services in the fall of 2020. We have established a date for an outdoor service on September 13th on the Church Lawn with planned safety precautions in place.

What is taking so long?

We are attempting to meet all the guidelines for in person worship services established by our Eastern Canada Synod and the local health authorities. Church Council has established a task force to review the guidelines and implications for our congregation and provide us with recommendations on the best way to move forward. While the task force has accomplished a great deal under the leadership of its chair, Lorne Rueckwald, and members, Andy Kalnins and Aman Segu, there is still work to be completed prior to safe resumption of in person worship services. Issues such as taking the temperature of members and checking health status prior to their entrance to their seats, data collection and retention, proper signage and distance markers, are some of the items that still need to be resolved. Council and the task force are doing their best to ensure we balance the desire to open again for in person worship, with ensuring the safety of those who are most vulnerable and at risk for severe consequences from contracting Covid-19. When a final plan for reopening our church for in person worship has been established, we will be submitting it to both our synod and local health authorities for comment and approval prior to opening. We will then be in a position to advise congregation members of our planned opening date.

Why are other churches already open or opening earlier than we are?

We believe that each congregation (and denomination) is doing its best to follow the guidelines that have been put in place by health and church authorities. There are variations in the approach and timing depending on a number of items including:

- congregation location
- community Covid-19 outbreak rates
- resources available
- congregation size
- congregation demographics (age structure)
- risk assessment

We are committed to opening our in person worship services at the earliest opportunity given our ability to meet the requirements of both the health authorities and the guidelines established by our synod leadership. We thank you for your continued support and should you have any questions regarding the resumption of in person worship services, please contact a member of church council.

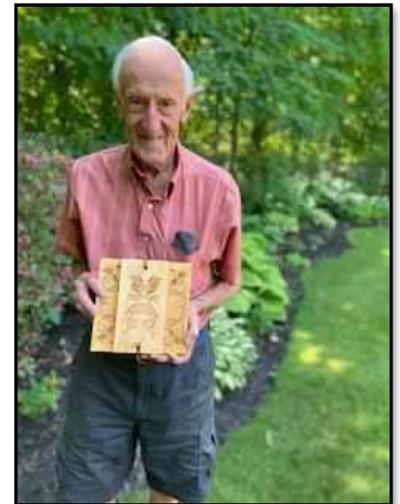
Your church council and Pastor Norine.

**Images about something beautiful or meaningful
found, grown, made, done or written during these
'stay at home' days.**

The Bretzlaff's coping with COVID



Lorne Was kept busy with His carving, he made 10 napkin holders and 20 coasters plus he made about 30 of the logo's for the men's shed. When the good weather came he had his vegetable garden to put in at home and in Quebec once the restrictions were eased. JoAnne had her Spanish weaving to do plus her Ukulele to practice, once we discovered Zoom we started our Uke group on it . Then we discovered BBO on the internet and began playing Bridge on it. Of course once the Golf Clubs opened we started playing golf. So all in all it's not that bad thanks to Dave we attend Sunday worship at home (miss the friendship after)



Lois Rosien enjoyed carefully hand stitching this Noah's Ark baby quilt for P+ Norine's grandson



YOU are invited to celebrate International Day of Peace

Brief gathering and meditation at the Peace Pole

Outdoors with safe physical distancing

Monday, September 21

12 noon

Galilee Centre

398 John Street North

Arnprior, ON

More info: 613 897-0188

If you are collecting **pop can tabs** for recycling for funds for charitable purposes, a nearby depot is the Bells Corners United Church. Please write or phone in advance of delivery.' Details:

Office Administrator

Bells Corners United Church

3955 Old Richmond Rd. Nepean, ON K2H 5C5

Phone:: 613-820-8103

Email: office@bcuc.org

Web: www.bcuc.org

As a kid, did you ever knock on people's doors and run away before they could answer? Well, guess what...we are hiring



Cat for sale. Still in it's original packaging. Mint condition.



On average, a Panda feeds for approximately 12 hours per day. This is the same as an adult at home under quarantine, which is why we call it a "Pandemic"