

## Eagle Format Changes Coming

A great deal of time and effort goes in to producing *The Eagle* each month and as soon as it reaches you, the reader, much of the information is out of date or important details are missing. New and exciting forms of sending information have evolved in recent years and we are working on changing *The Eagle* with the times .

What does this mean? *The Eagle* will now be produced quarterly, with ongoing information being sent out as needed. We have received wonderful, positive feedback on the weekly information bulletins/reminders that have been sent out in recent months, with members being able to absorb smaller amounts of information on a more frequent basis.

The Eagle schedule will be centered around the church seasons making due dates for submissions more flexible. This will be the last monthly edition. The next edition will be for the summer months —June, July and August, arriving sometime early in June. Prior to Rally Day in September there will be a fall edition. The winter edition will arrive sometime prior to the start of Advent and a spring edition will arrive prior to Ash Wednesday. Electronic versions will continue to be sent to those who have subscribed.

**Monthly calendars** will be available in printed format in the rear entry each month for those who like to have one on hand. These will no longer be included in *The Eagle*, but can **always** be accessed via St. John's website under the "News & Events" tab. The names of members who are being prayed for weekly will be posted monthly on the narthex bulletin board and will no longer be included in *The Eagle*. Worship Assistants' schedules will also be posted on the narthex bulletin board monthly and on the "News & Events" tab on the website and will no longer be printed in *The Eagle*.

We are excited about these new changes which will allow us to keep members informed of ongoing ministries, events and activities in a more timely fashion.

In Christ,  
Carolyn Rothman  
Communications Coordinator  
Director of Children's Christian Education

## Spring Rotation Sunday School Coming Soon!

Be a part of this unique experience with our Sunday School children. The last Rotation lessons were a lot of fun and we are looking for some teachers to help during the final weeks of Sunday School. Everything needed to prepare for your lesson is provided and you would only need to teach for two Sundays. Spring Rotation: April 3-May 22. Please see Carolyn Rothman if interested.

## Adult Forum

April 24 @ 9:00 AM

The Rev. Dr. David D. Grafton, Associate Professor, Islamic Studies and Christian-Muslim Relations and Vice President for Planning, Assessment, and Administration at the Lutheran Theological Seminary at Philadelphia will return to St. John's along with Dr. Ali Chaudry, President of the Islamic Society of Basking Ridge. Doctors Grafton and Chaudry will continue our educational conversations in an effort to bring clarity and compassion as we seek to move beyond fear and toward engagement with our American Muslim brothers and sisters.

## Youth Missions Auction

St. John's Youth Mission Auction is held every other year and will be held Saturday, April 30, 2016.

Enjoy a Country Western dinner and themed entertainment, cash and carry tables and a silent and live auction of donated items.

We are looking for donations of new items. Basket items are very popular (i.e.-movies, games, coffees and/or teas, pet items, wines, books, etc.) If you provide the items, the youth will be willing to make them into baskets.

If you have connections to businesses willing to donate gift certificates or merchandise, we would also gratefully accept those types of items for the auction.

If you bake, sew, paint, cook, craft or build and would be willing to make something to either sell or auction, we would also gladly accept that too.

Please let Jane or Jama Bowman know of any items that you would like to donate. [jbowman@drew.edu](mailto:jbowman@drew.edu) or [jama.b@comcast.net](mailto:jama.b@comcast.net)

This will be the first of several fund raising events for the Youth Missions Fund. The Fund provides money for our youth to attend mission events such as the yearly Appalachia Service Project and the triennial ELCA Youth Gatherings (the next Gathering will be held in Houston, June 2018).

Look for news on the following future fundraisers :

- **Rummage Sale** on July 16, 2016 where you can donate "lightly used" items
- **Car Washes** on May 28<sup>th</sup> and Aug 13<sup>th</sup>
- **Chili Cook-Off:** TBD
- **Octoberfest Dinner:** TBD

**Dinner Church**  
April 10

## From Pastor Gladys

### “Fifty Filters for Flint for the Fifty Days of Eastertide”

*“But let justice roll down like waters, and righteousness like an ever-flowing stream.” (Amos 5:24)*

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Flint, Michigan has been much on my heart and mind in these days since the news broke that their water had been poisoned by lead. Sadly, the news “broke” nationally more than a year after the residents of Flint complained about their water. For 17 months they were drinking, cooking, and bathing in lead-contaminated water while city and state officials insisted that the water was safe. While these residents kept telling their elected officials about tainted, foul-smelling tap water and how they were developing rashes and hair loss from drinking and bathing in it, their governmental leaders kept lying to them.

Amos’ prophetic words to the people of ancient Israel were a powerful image of what justice should be like for poor people who were being trampled upon and overburdened with unfair taxes. He declared that God’s justice should be expansive, free flowing, and as thunderous as bodies of water like Niagara Falls.

So too should God’s justice be for our brothers and sisters in Flint. What the people there need and demand is what every citizen of the United States should have --- namely clean, healthy and plentiful water, water such as they had been receiving from Lake Huron for decades. But to save money, these poor people were trampled upon and treated as those whose voices and concerns could be disregarded. Thus, many of these residents and especially the vulnerable children, will be sick for years to come, if not permanently damaged by the effects of lead poisoning.

Thankfully, the Christian Church has responded to this crisis along with other faith traditions and people of good will. But the problems of Flint will not go away, perhaps for years to come. And in the meantime, people are suffering --- daily standing in line for bottled water and in need of water filtration systems.

During the fifty days of Eastertide, we celebrate the church’s chief baptismal season, rejoicing in the gift of baptism. Even as we “walk wet” as God’s beloved children, we are ever mindful of the needs of our sisters and brothers in Flint for clean and safe water. To help alleviate this need, we at St. John’s are making a commitment to purchase water filters. Our campaign, **“Fifty Filters for Flint for the Fifty Days of Eastertide”** will enable the South East Michigan Synod, ELCA to purchase fifty (or more) PUR Maxion Advanced Water Filters for \$30.00 each. These will then be distributed to the families and residents of Flint.

We’re counting on your generous support of this endeavor, so that the needs of God’s children in Flint,

## From Pastor Blake

On the third Thursday of every month for nearly a year now I have led a protestant worship service with the seniors living at Juniper Village Retirement and Assisted Living in Chatham. It is often a small gathering, maybe a dozen or so. We gather together to sing a few hymns, read scripture, pray, and share in Holy Communion. Even at our best gatherings, our singing is sometimes a struggle, not everyone who comes can navigate the printed order of service, and mobility is nearly universally limited. This past week’s gathering, I showed up without enough songbooks, left the scripture and my sermon notes on my desk, people showed up halfway through, and there was distracting noise coming from down the hall. Nevertheless, our worship was genuine, the fellowship affectionate, and God was present. For all the imperfections and seeming insignificance of this tiny service—it is truly a holy and important ministry. It mattered that we were there.

Sometimes I forget that God shows up in the small places, the forgotten places, when I least expect it, but always just when I need it. God doesn’t need our perfection but our sincere striving. God doesn’t desire our certainty but rather our faith. God’s kingdom is not built in grand institutions, polished organizations, or flashy programs but in simple acts of Christian love. God is not glorified in numbers—God could care less about how many people are on the rolls—but in hearts burning with the love of Christ.

The resurrection surprises our expectations. The Holy Spirit poured out upon the Church first at Pentecost and continually poured out upon the Church throughout the ages is winging and winding where she wills. God is the ever changing, unchangeable.

All of this is not to say that God doesn’t care about the work we do—actually the opposite. Hear this as a word of encouragement. Sometimes the work we do seems so small in the face of the need. What good are a few cans of food in the weekly offering or a few hours working at the Community Foodbank in the face of the immense poverty and hunger around the world? What is the point of teaching a Sunday School class when sometimes only a few children show up? You fill in the task, but I bet you have asked yourself: does it really make a difference to show up, turn out, put in the time, and support the work? The answer is yes.

God blesses the small stuff. God shows up in the small stuff. God is present even when numbers are few. “For where two or three are gathered in my name, there am I among them” (Matthew 18:20).

God is not looking for greatness but faithfulness, dedication, and devotion. God is counting on us to do the work, to show up, to give, and to serve. But the ultimate success of all endeavors belongs to God. It is God who will prosper our work. It is God who will grow the meager seeds we plant into an abundant harvest.

## Notes from the Director of Music/Organist

### Liturgy Changes

As we move into the Sundays of Easter, we will return to singing a favorite liturgy setting, Setting 4 by Ronald Nelson, at the 10:30 AM services. At 8:00 AM, we will continue singing the traditional parts of Setting 10.

### Fantastic Handbell Festival Concert Saturday, April 23<sup>RD</sup>, AT 4:00 PM!

You don't want to miss this concert! 4 PM is the time, Sat., April 23<sup>rd</sup> is the date, and YOU are invited to attend! The massed bell choirs of children, youth, and adult ringers from Central Presbyterian Church in Summit, King of Kings Lutheran Church in Mountain Lakes, the Presbyterian Church in Morris Plains, and St. John's own Lutherringers will present the music they have worked on together during the day, as well as individual choirs' solos. Guest instrumentalists from King of Kings and St. John's will be joining the ringers on several pieces. YOU are needed to sing the offering hymn, "Praise to the Lord, the Almighty" (ELW 858) and to support the efforts of all the musicians. The concert is free, although a free-will offering will be received to help cover festival expenses.

The festival is a unique opportunity for multiple bell choirs to form a bell orchestra, if you will. There will be anywhere from 1–5 ringers playing each part, which is a little like how an orchestra works with its multiple string, woodwind, brass, and percussion instrumentalists. The different, seasoned handbell conductors will lead the massed choirs to mold them into one choir ringing five massed pieces. It will be quite a celebration! Please join us on April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 4 PM!

### WHY DIDN'T THEY CLAP?

One of the Children's Choir members asked a great question recently. They actually ask me lots of great questions, but this one popped out as being especially important. It went something like this: "Why didn't everyone clap for us when we finished singing?" I can't remember the exact words I used to respond, but here's what I might have said: We sing (and play and ring) music in worship as our offering to God, using the gifts God has given us. Through our music we may be praising God, proclaiming God's word, or offering prayers or confessions to God. While people may or may not clap for our music in worship, our goal is always to try to offer our best music in a humble spirit with gratitude for all that God has done for us. And when the occasional outburst of applause does occur, we give thanks to God all the more.

### The Prelude: Preparing for Worship

At a recent Worship & Music committee meeting, a question was asked about how we can encourage silence during the 10:30 AM prelude as a means of preparing for worship. Several suggestions were discussed and will be considered. In the meantime, I offer these ideas from other churches about the role of the prelude: It is a way to (1) enter into a holy space by quieting ourselves in preparation for worship, (2) draw us into an attitude of prayer and praise, (3) prepare our hearts for worship, and (4) begin to encounter God's word through prayer and music. All would seem to require a time of silence and

attention. What do you think? I would love to hear your thoughts....

### Musical Service Opportunities

#### Handbell Ringing

If you love the sound of handbells, but have limited time, how can you get involved? Well, one way is to become a **substitute ringer** for the Lutherringers. Substitutes are "on call" and might ring once in a month (Sundays, 12–1 PM), or they might ring for several weeks leading up to a performance. Good music-reading skills are needed.

Another way to get involved is to ring in a **One-Week Bell Choir**. Beginning level music-reading skills are helpful, but not necessary. Ringers at all skill levels are welcome. Rehearsals typically are a Wednesday evening (6:45–7:45 PM during the program year) and Sunday morning (9:30–10:00 AM), with the ensemble performing during Communion. If enough people express interest, a One-Week Bell Choir will be offered in May or June. RSVP to [dgarzinsky@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:dgarzinsky@stjohnssummit.org).

#### Youth Sunday: May 1<sup>st</sup>

Parts of Rachel Kurtz's soulful and exciting "A Celebration of Holy Communion" and other pieces will form the musical liturgy for this special 10:30 AM service. Youth musicians (singers and instrumentalists) are needed to help lead the liturgy, as well as to provide prelude, offering, and postlude music. To sign up, see me at church or send me an email ([dgarzinsky@stjohnssummit.org](mailto:dgarzinsky@stjohnssummit.org)).

#### Children's Choir

Have you heard the wonderful singing our Children's Choir has offered in worship recently? We'd love to add a few more singers. Rehearsals are on Fridays from 3:30 to 4:15 PM.

Yours in Christ,  
Donna Garzinsky

## From Director of Music—Ken Bryson

Mark your calendar:

Join us on Sunday, May 22<sup>nd</sup> at 3:00 PM for the last concert in our concert series season. We bring back by popular demand members of the New Jersey Symphony Orchestra for an afternoon of music from "All Around the World" featuring a brass quintet. Members will educate us on the individual instruments through a journey of music from around the world. This is a concert for all ages. Following the program we will have a reception that will include activities for children.

Tickets: \$30, Children 12 and under FREE

Also, our 3<sup>rd</sup> season lineup will officially be announced at this concert! Don't miss this exciting news!

**Pastor Gladys**, cont. from pg. 2

both young and old, will at least in part be met as they continue to cope with this ongoing crisis. May our prayer indeed be that God's justice roll down like (clean and safe) water, and God's righteousness like an ever-following stream.

In Christ's Peace,  
Pastor Gladys

**Pastor Blake**, cont. from pg. 2

Yes, God is in the small things, the mundane things, and even our less-than-best things. God is in our midst even when we are at our worst. And, God's grace is more than enough. The God who raised Jesus Christ from the dead is still in the business of resurrection and new life.

So, keep on keeping on. Trust that God has the rest. Be on the look out for God and be ready to be amazed at the wondrous things God is doing in your lives and in our church. To God be the glory!

In Christ,  
Pastor Blake

### Sine Nomine



Open to all adult members/friends of the congregation. Sine Nomine means "without a name," used intentionally for almost 40 years to escape defining the group. This fellowship gathering occurs once a month at the homes of members of St. John's and is a great way to get to know other members a little better.

Bring a main dish to share if you can, or bring an appetizer, salad or dessert. If you are interested in hosting Sine Nomine, please watch for the sign-up sheet in the hallway or contact Jane

Bowman at 908-447-8865 or [jbowman@drew.edu](mailto:jbowman@drew.edu). The next Sine Nomine will be April 15, 2016 at the home of Lois & Rodger Kopf.

### Thanksgiving and Memorial Fund

We are grateful for gifts given to the glory of God by:

- Liz Holler in memory of Jayne Rode
- Joy Petzinger in memory of Jayne Rode
- Evine R. Eriksson in memory of Jayne Rode
- Pattie Gould and Hasan Karslioglu in thanksgiving of their marriage

### Franklin Fry Lecture Fund

We are grateful for gifts given to the glory of God by:

- Yueh Goffin in memory of my mom, Mei Chun Wei

### Youth Ministry

Sunday, April 3	Coffee Sale
Sunday, April 24	Supper Club
Saturday, April 30	Youth Missions Auction
Sunday, May 1	Youth Sunday
<b>See youth bulletin board for details.</b>	

## St. John's Lutheran Church

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### Ministers

The People of St. John's Church

### Staff

Rev. Gladys G. Moore

Pastor, x2501

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Anne Dello Russo, Nursery

Harold Wyss, Weekday Sexton

Lidia Domanowski, Weekend Sexton

*God's purpose for  
St. John's is to  
hear God's Word,  
reflect God's grace,  
share Christ's love.*

# Worship Assistants

April 2016

SUNDAYS	April 3 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)	April 10 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)	April 17 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)	April 24 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)
Altar Guild	Carol Schmidt Harold Clark	Carol Schmidt Joan Boyd	Doris Boyd Jean Wyratt	Beverly Kaczmariski Harold Clark
Linens	Carolyn Rothman	Carolyn Rothman	Carolyn Rothman	Carolyn Rothman
Counters	Mark Nedde Peter Mesenbrink Kathy Pinho Rick Coble	Andrew Young Richard Boyd Bill Walker	Marifel Calis Andrew Larsen Hans Calis	Sarah Johnson Jim Nering Peter Larsen Thelma McNulty
SUNDAYS 8:00 a.m.	April 3 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)	April 10 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)	April 17 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)	April 24 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)
Worship Assistant/Reader	Chris Black	Michael Kaczmariski	Ken Sharpe	Steve Neiman
Usher	Pam Black	Mark Shannon	Kevin Cristino	Karen Riordan
SUNDAYS 10:30 a.m.	April 3 2 <sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)	April 10 3 <sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)	April 17 4 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)	April 24 5 <sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter (White)
Deacons	TBD	TBD	TBD	TBD
Acolytes	Kyle Goetke	<b><u>Acolyte Needed</u></b>	Luke Ertman	Sara Mesenbrink
Readers	Ray Snyder	Rick Coble	Sue Colby	Ian Noble
Ushers	Millie & Charlie Connelly Peter Mesenbrink Jonette Boyd	Richard Boyd Carolyn Rothman Eula & Jardeen Nervais	Hans & Marifel Calis Nancy Tennant Keli Bell-Cole	Andrew Young Johanna Snyder Bob & Anne Peterson
Greeters	Goetke Family	Rick and Julia Coble	Keli Bell Cole	Mesenbrink Family
Fellowship Time	Eula and Jardeen Nervais	<b><u>Host Needed</u></b>	<b><u>Host Needed</u></b>	Linda Mesenbrink

## Prayer is Acknowledging the Presence of God Members We Pray for this Month

### April 3

Thomas and Christian Fraehmke  
Irma Gahan  
Donna Garzinsky and Bill Reiche  
Christine Gerity  
Janet, Michael, Kyle and Keira Goetke

### April 10

Yueh, Vincent and Henry Goffin  
James and Susan Goodling  
Pattie Gould and Hasan Karslioglu  
Jean Grabinsky  
Carol Groote

### April 17

Dorothy Grotyohann  
Egon and Eugenia Haldenwang  
Imad, Sheela and John Hanna  
Kelly, Michael, Madison and Mason Hawkins  
Douglas Heacock and Brian Buckley

### April 24

Todd and Eloise Heacock  
Leigh Anne Helfmann  
David, Darby, Matthew and Emily Hering  
Kristina, Paul, Malcolm and Nils Holman  
Warren, Amy, Katherine and Chelsea Hynes

# April 2016

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
					<b>1</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 3:30pm Children's Choir (Choir Rm, loft or sanctuary) 7:30pm AA (HH)	<b>2</b> 7pm Peter Yarrow (of Peter, Paul, & Mary) w/ Mustard's Retreat (Sanctuary)
<b>3</b> Easter 2 Family Promise (HH) 8am & 10:30 Holy Communion 9am Blood Pressure Screening 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 9am Youth Coffee Sale 10:05am Choir Reh. (Loft) 12pm Lutherringers (Loft)	<b>4</b> Family Promise (HH)	<b>5</b> Family Promise (HH) 12:15pm NA (AL) 7:30pm Summit Chorale (Sanctuary) 8pm NA-CANCELLED	<b>6</b> Family Promise (HH) 12:15pm NA (AL) 4:30pm Recorder Ensemble (Choir Rm, loft, or chapel) 7:45pm Adult Choir (Choir Rm) 8pm NA-CANCELLED	<b>7</b> Family Promise (HH) 12:15pm NA (AL) 7:30pm NA-CANCELLED	<b>8</b> Family Promise (HH) 12:15pm NA (AL) 3:30pm Children's Choir (Choir Rm, loft or sanctuary) 7:30pm AA-CANCELLED	<b>9</b> Family Promise (HH)
<b>10</b> Easter 3 Family Promise (HH) 8 & 10:30 am Holy Communion 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:05am Choir Reh. (Loft) 12pm Lutherringers (Loft) 1pm ASP Meeting (HH) 6pm Dinner Church	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 7:30pm Summit Chorale (HH) 8pm NA (AL)	<b>13</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 3pm Worship Service—Vito Gallo 4:30pm Recorder Ensemble (Choir Rm, loft, or chapel) 7:45pm Adult Choir (Choir Rm) 8pm NA (AL)	<b>14</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 7:30pm Exec. Comm. Mtg. (Conference Rm.) 7:30pm NA (AL)	<b>15</b> EAGLE SUBMISSIONS DUE 12:15pm NA (AL) 3:30pm Children's Choir (Choir Rm, loft or sanctuary) 7:30pm AA (HH) 7:30pm Sine Nomine (TBD)	<b>16</b> Bridges Run 7pm Youth-Katie's Dance Party (HH)
<b>17</b> Easter 4 8am Confirmation Trip: Abyssinian 8 & 10:30am Holy Communion 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:05am Choir Reh. (Choir Loft) 12pm Lutherringers (Choir loft)	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 7:30pm Summit Chorale (HH) 8pm NA (AL)	<b>20</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 4:30pm Recorder Ensemble (Choir Rm, loft, or chapel) 7:45pm Adult Choir (Choir Rm) 8pm NA (AL)	<b>21</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 1:30pm Worship Service at Juniper Village 7:30pm Council (Conf. Rm.) 7:30pm NA (AL)	<b>22</b> 8am Handbell Festival set-up (Sanctuary, HH, Loft) 12:15pm NA (AL) 3:30pm Children's Choir (Choir Rm, loft or sanctuary) 7:30pm AA (HH)	<b>23</b> 9am St. John's Handbell Festival rehearsals (Sanctuary, HH) 4pm St. John's Bell Festival Concert (Sanctuary)
<b>24</b> Easter 5 8 & 10:30am Holy Communion 9am Forum: David Grafton 9am Sunday School & Confirmation 10:05am Choir Reh. (Loft) 12pm NO Lutherringers (Loft) 12pm Worship & Music (AL)	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> SIC Book Group (TBD) 12:15pm NA (AL) 7:30pm Summit Chorale (Sanctuary) 8pm NA (AL)	<b>27</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 4:30pm Recorder Ensemble (Choir Rm, loft, or chapel) 7:45pm Adult Choir (Choir Rm) 8pm NA (AL)	<b>28</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 7:30pm NA (AL)	<b>29</b> 12:15pm NA (AL) 3:30pm Children's Choir (Choir Rm, loft or sanctuary) 7:30pm AA (HH)	<b>30</b> Youth Auction