

The Eagle

Summer
2022

**ST. JOHN
CHURCH COUNCIL
SERVANTS**

Matt Cote
Lee Dryden
Ginny Hohl
Rick Bosch
Marsha Irmer
Don Reidell
CJ Ullrich
Shirleen Besch
Brian Hirschey

THE PASTOR'S NOTE...

The tide is coming in. In about an hour it will start to go out again. Later, it will come back in. And then it will go out again. It all happens so effortlessly – yet powerfully. The tide is undeniably undeterred – yet also unassuming. It is just following the principle order of creation.

In.
Out.
In.
Out.

As I watch the tide, I play along (unconsciously, of course). My breath finds rhythm. In. Out. My heart beats. In. Out. Even my mind transitions from activity to stillness. In. Out.

My kids are forced to play along. They try to play, go, do, splash, run, throw, jump, and swim. Out. Out. Out. Out. Out. But they inevitably crash. Their bodies insist they slow down. John falls asleep in the car. Delaney crashes on the couch. Matthew passes out on the boat. Molly falls asleep on her towel. In. In. In. In.

Martin Luther wrote, “The gospel is not written in the Bible alone, but also on trees, and in the flowers, and clouds and stars.” The Psalmist writes, “The heavens declare the glory of God; the skies proclaim the work of his hands. Day after day they pour forth speech; night after night they reveal knowledge. They have no speech, they use no words; no sound is heard from them. Yet their voice goes out into all the earth, their words to the ends of the world.” (Psalm 19:1-4)

In other words, everything we need to know is right there in front of us. In the trees, in the sky, in the waters, in the wind, and, I would add, even in our own bodies. They all proclaim – in, out. They proclaim a cycle of resurrection, of dying and rising, of resting and running, of light and shadow. No sound is heard from them, they use no words, but their message goes out into all the earth.

Our Lord Jesus modeled this holy reality in his own life and called his disciples to do the same. Jesus frequently retreated from the crowds and demands of this world to be by himself.

When Jesus was baptized, he went to the wilderness for forty days. In. He emerged to call disciples and heal a man with leprosy. Out. When John the Baptist was beheaded, Jesus withdrew to a deserted place. In. Then, he fed 5,000. Out. When Jesus knew the time of his Passion was near, he prayed. In. He then demonstrated the greatest act of love and sacrifice the world has ever seen. Out.

Like the tide, Jesus’ life models this effortless yet powerful rhythm of in and out. And it should be no surprise that his call to the disciples invited them to do the same. Jesus met his disciples with exhortations to go, do, heal (others), and proclaim. He balanced those invitations with calls to abide, rest, heal (for themselves), and pray. *con’t...*



Life in Christ is not one of constant motion or action. However, it is also not marked by perpetual solitude or prayer.

It is always both – like creation, like the tide – In. Out.

If you've made it this far, you're more than likely staring at a computer screen or your phone.

Which ironically is the opposite point I meant to end with.

I encourage you sometime soon to find a quiet place in creation.

Listen for the gospel. Be still. Notice. Breathe. In. Out.

In the Way,
PSDH

What can I say that I have not said before?

So I'll say it again.

The leaf has a song in it.

Stone is the face of patience.

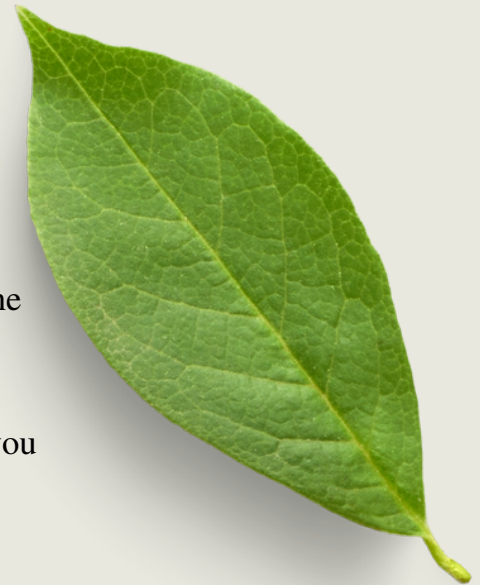
Inside the river there is an unfinishable story
and you are somewhere in it
and it will never end until all ends.

Take your busy heart to the art museum and the
chamber of commerce
but take it also to the forest.

The song you heard singing in the leaf when you
were a child
is singing still.

I am of years lived, so far, seventy-four,
and the leaf is singing still.

~ "What Can I Say" from Swan by Mary Oliver ~



Pastor Marsha Irmer's 80th Life Passages

YOU'RE INVITED....to join with Pastor Marsha Irmer and her family for a festive coffee hour following worship on July 10 to celebrate her 80th birthday. PLEASE JOIN US!



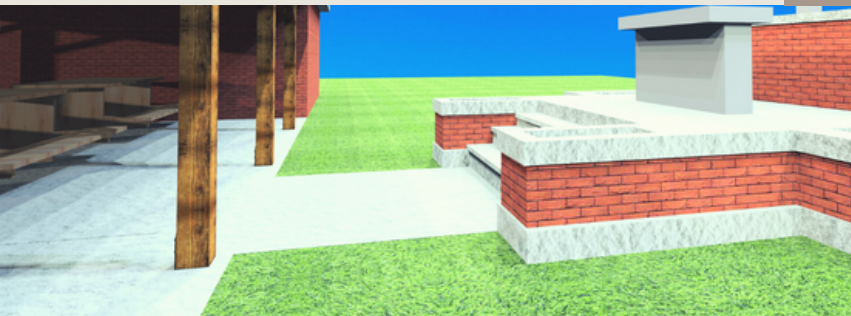
On Wednesday, June 8th 2022, Marie Palermo departed this world to join the Saints in light. A funeral was held at St. John on June 12th, 2022

On May 29th, 2022, Gordon Steinhilber, departed this world to join the Saints in light. A funeral was held at St. John on June 21st, 2022.

On June 18th, 2022, Marge Reidell departed this world to join the Saints in light. A funeral will be held at St. John TBD.

Teagan Newman was baptized on July 1st, 2022.

Weston Braunscheidel was baptized on June 18th, 2022.



BUILDING

BRICK BY BRICK

with your help.

DONOR BRICKS - \$250
MEMORIAL/IN HONOR OF BRICKS - \$275

The altar of the Outdoor Ministry Center will be wrapped in bricks that name those who made this project possible. **Thank you** for your consideration. (see reverse for details)

Thank you!



Dear St. John Lutheran Church,
Thank you for your gift to the Lutheran Disaster Response.

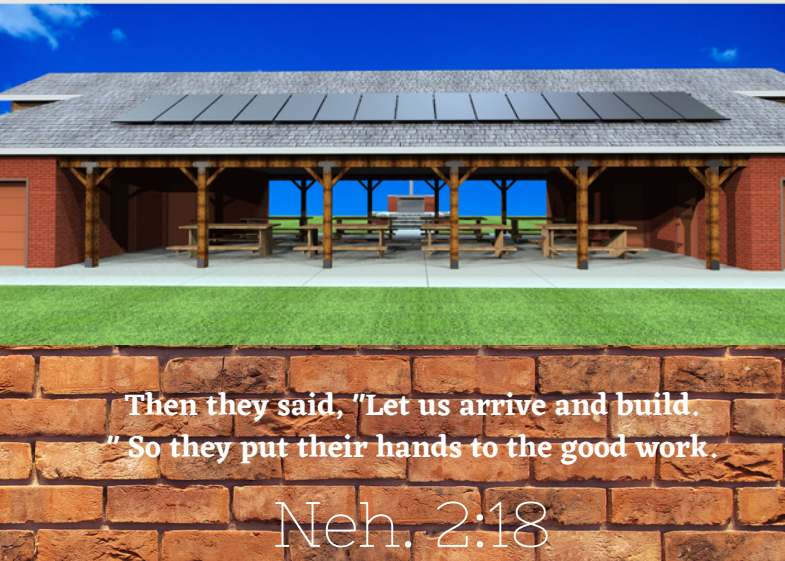
Your Spirit-filled generosity is helping families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world.

Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God is shining through you.

In Christ,
Rev. Robin Brown

THE BRICK CAMPAIGN

This brick campaign is intended to demonstrate our congregation's commitment to the OMC project. Beyond that, it will provide initial resources to begin building and potentially reduce the amount of money we borrow from a bank and withdraw from our investments. **Your help and consideration is most sincerely appreciated.** To purchase a brick, please fill out the attached form and return to the church office. Please call (716)632-6557 or email office@sjlcamherst.com with questions. GOD BLESS YOU AND THANK YOU.



Ben Eckhardt.

Williamsville East graduate
Outstanding Senior athlete, All WNY volleyball, 6 years volleyball athlete and captain. 5 year baseball. National Honor Society. PTSA scholarship award recipient, NY Army National Guard achievement award. Volunteer for special Olympics, Miracle League Baseball and Down Syndrome Parent Group. Will be attending PITT for business Finance.

Graduates of 2022



Emily Grace Reid, is a 2022 graduate of Williamsville East High School. She will be attending the University of Kentucky and majoring in Biology for a future career in medical research.



Ally Goehle is graduating from Williamsville North HS and she will be attending Nova Southeastern University in Ft. Lauderdale, FL and will be studying Nursing. Her picture is attached. Then say some prayers for us- that's a LONG way away from home- she's excited, we're mortified! HAHA!



Brielle Wark
Attending Medaille University to study math education, will also be playing softball for Medaille
Graduating from Williamsville East

COUNCIL UPDATE

The June church council meeting was held on the 21st at 7:00PM. We began with prayer followed by the adoption of the previous month's minutes and approval of the evening's agenda. Pastor reported on recent pastoral acts including memorials and a baptism.

The committees offered the following reports...

Social Ministry – St. John continues to support Friends of Night People through volunteers and donations.

Fellowship – the Brown Bag Lunch will be held on the second Friday of the month throughout the summer. Location TBD. The fellowship committee thanked the volunteers who recently assisted with Gordon Steinhilber's memorial reception. Members and friends of St. John are invited to a reception celebrating Pastor Marsha Irmer's 80th birthday immediately following worship on July 10.

Christian Education – Sunday School was successful given the circumstances. Registration will take place this summer for the fall of 2022. Classes will resume on 9.11.22.

Personnel – We will continue to monitor the new arrangement with Brittany as she has taken on both cleaning and sexton responsibilities.

Stewardship – Our recent World Hunger appeal generated \$1,580. Well done.

Finance – We are looking into builder's risk insurance for our Outdoor Ministry Center project. Budget figures are in "good shape" five months through the fiscal year.

In the business portion of the meeting it was reported that somewhere around \$3,500 came in from the Rummage Sale. The Outdoor Ministry Center project is in the final stages of approval with NYS and the Town of Amherst.

There will be a new member reception sometime in late July. There will be no council meeting in July. Council members are encouraged to attend the new member reception. At the next meeting the council will discuss meeting in-person 3-4 times per year.

The meeting adjourned with prayer and concluded with the Lord's Prayer.



Lutheran Charities Baseball Night



**BUFFALO
BISONS**

**ROCHESTER
RED WINGS**

@ SAHLEN FIELD

FRIDAY, JULY 22ND

Game Tickets: \$10 each

Concession Packages: \$12 each
(includes: hotdog, soda and popcorn)

Game Time @ 7:05

PRIZES

& Postgame Fireworks!

Register Online at www.WNYLutheranCharities.org
or Download a Mail-In Ticket Order Form

BJ's Membership



BJ's memberships are available through St. John at a discounted rate.

For details please contact the church office at office@sjlcamherst.com or (716) 632-6557

Altar Help



We will need help with preparing the Altar for Communion. What we will need help for is to fill the communion cups up, or clean up after the 8:30 service. If you can help please reach out to Joni Cote, she regularly helps us with this and would know more information.

Joni Cote: pokerjoni1956@gmail.com

Men's Group



We will be meeting every Saturday outside weather permitting, if not outside we will meet inside in the Gathering Space at 9 AM.

The Men's Group will not be meeting for breakfast in July due to the holiday. The next meeting for men's breakfast will be on Monday, August 1st, at 7:00 AM. We will meet at Helen's Kitchen on Transit road.

ST. JOHN PRAYER LIST

Hospitalized and Homebound
Colleen Gunning, Ann Henry

Loss and Bereavement

Family and friends of Ruth Whitfield, friend of Candy Pankow
Family and friends of the individuals who lost their lives in the tragic Tops shooting
Family and Friends of Gordon Steinhilber
Family and friends of lives lost in the Texas school shootings
Family and friends of Marie Palermo
Family and friends of Gaylord Smith, brother of Deb Francis
Family and friends of Marge Reidell, wife of Don Reidell

Healing, Comfort & Special Concerns

Rick Bosch, Steve Favale, Bob Tiffany, Wayne Yendall, Gayle Bosch, Merv Moore, Ellen Manthey, Jerry Szykowny, Ed Utz, Jennifer Ekberg, Judy Yendall, John Sivak, Ethel Semrau, The family of Bill Tambacas brother in law of Dave and Judy Nitchke
Curt Yaeger, son-in-law of Marie Palermo and wife, Julie Yaeger
Peggy Warfield, friend of Marsha Irmer
Brent Chornysik, friend of John Sivak
John Senn, uncle of Rich Bosch
Jen Diakun, daughter of Kate and Jim Olson
Miriam Benson, friend of Kate and Jim Olson
Jan Vincent, sister of Deb Francis
Elaine and Syd Small, friends of Marsha Irmer
Carol Dixon, sister of Joni Cote
Michelle Newman, friend of Susan Hadala
Ana Senn, cousin of Rick and Gayle Bosch

For wise governing dealing with world tension, suffering, and war in Ukraine.

Healing, comfort and strength for those seeking refuge from world events and natural disasters..

The homeless, hungry, cold and lonely.

Those victimized by any form of violence, racism, abuse, coercion, and addiction.

Military: Matt Newman, Drew Steinhilber, John Wendelin, Nicholas Ford, Ben Hoyt ,Jacob Roy, Zachary Beers

Names will be kept on the prayer list for 4 weeks, if you need your loved one on for longer please let the office know and we will be glad to keep them on.



SUMMER BIRTHDAYS

July Birthdays

Henry May	7/1	Ethan Martin	7/17
Robert Stricko	7/3	Wyatt Martin	7/17
Marsha Irmer	7/7	Ginny Hohl	7/18
Klaus Schonrank	7/8	Ben Ullrich	7/20
Deni Krantz	7/10	Kate Olson	7/20
Grace Bosch	7/10	Erica Stricko	7/23
Linda Tiffany	7/10	Tracy Wylie	7/24
Sherry Slaper	7/10	Olga Ullrich	7/25
Adam Bogart	7/11	Ryan Weber	7/27
Anna Henry	7/12	Randy Markarian	7/28
Kristen Zahn	7/14	David Pawlowski	7/29
Andrew Johnson	7/16	Amy Stohl	7/30
Keith Parker	7/16	Edward Utz	7/31
Robert Stricko	7/16	Mary Koehneke	7/31
Brian Martin	7/17		

August Birthdays

Keegan Kruszynski	8/4	Julie Johnson	8/18
Kristen Stohl	8/4	Christian McMullen	8/19
Jennifer Ekberg	8/5	Michele Kubik	8/19
Elaine Dust	8/6	Eric Bogart	8/20
Angela Menzies	8/8	Lori Schonrank	8/20
Ryan Boling	8/8	Jacob Kachelmeyer	8/21
Susan Ott	8/8	Joel Hirscey	8/21
David Brock	8/9	David Steinhilber	8/22
Collin Reid	8/10	Sandra Ekberg	8/22
David Otterstein	8/10	William Bulmer	8/22
Hailey Martin	8/11	Nicholas Slaper	8/24
Hannah Martin	8/11	Donna Moore	8/25
Leslie Tobia	8/11	Lisa Leach	8/25
Benjamin Allen	8/12	Karen Caton	8/27
Bob Williams	8/13	Ray Hohl	8/27
David Nitchke	8/14	Alaina Szykowny	8/28
Clayton Merlihan	8/15	Elizabeth Stohl	8/29
Megan Suszynski	8/16	Penny Favale	8/31

STAFF

Rev. Dr. Scott D. Hannon, *Pastor* | Rev. Charlie Greene, *Visitation Pastor*

Cindy Lin, *Traditional Music Leader* | Elena Erokhina, *Contemporary Music Leader*

Sara Accardi, *Administrative Assistant* | Brittany Grabowski, *Sexton*



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