

The Mustard Seed

March 2018

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

47 McLachlin Street, Arnprior,
Ontario K7S 2Z1

Pastor:
Norine Gullons
Church Office: 623-4562

*Pastor's office hours: 9:00-Noon
Tuesday and Thursday*

Chairperson:
Ryan Zimmerling 622-5939

Council:
Randy Zimmerling 623-9733
Jeff Kargus 623-0192
Beryl Richardson 623-4351
Lois Rosien 623-3010
Melissa Watt 432-9305



“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

Dear faith family and friends,

Sunday Feb. 25th the gospel lesson in worship was from MARK 8:31-38.

“If any want to become my followers, let them deny themselves and take up their cross and follow me.”

The crosses we take up are those which come upon us because we have chosen to be faithful. Love and power becomes translated into service. There are many examples in our own church of people who are bearing crosses, mostly medical ones – and important. Our own crosses are intimate and private

matters that we keep within our families. I selected a high profile “cross” to present as an example.

In the most recent news there are some American teenagers who have picked up a cross to bear. When 17 of their friends and class mates were gunned down in Florida they rose up and are taking a stand that NEVER AGAIN is this to happen in their country. 17 incidences of gun shootings have taken place in the USA since Jan 1. Emma Gonzalez – a senior student at Marjory Stoneman Douglas High School where the incident took place last week, is one of the leaders of the student survivors who is organizing the group NEVER AGAIN. These young people are very savvy with social media #NeverAgain. They are demanding legislative action to prevent similar shootings in the future. Emma and others have pledged with their peers to pressure lawmakers to make new laws and to change the laws around the issue of gun control in the U.S.A. I listened to them being interviewed and they were thoughtful and strategic.

Why should teenagers – some of whom are only 14 years of age have to convince adults to do the right thing? What is wrong with this picture?

They have chosen to take their love, their anger and their power and serve the greater good. These kids have decided to pick up a cross that is not meant for them to bear. But they have made this decision having experienced events beyond their control that have propelled them to feel called to such an action. *They have taken on the initiative for the sake of others.* My prayer is that their actions will bear fruit in their home state of Florida and elsewhere across America. Their actions are one small example of bearing a major cross.

Christianity celebrates the search for beauty, truth and the good and still has at its centre this most awful historical symbol of death and disgrace – the cross.

Our crosses are like Christ only in the sense that they involve offering ourselves to God and our neighbors in a complete and total love and obedience to God, no matter where that love and obedience may take us. It will involve us in far more than simply performing acts of kindness towards other people; or withstanding difficult situations.

It may even call on us some day to support our children and grandchildren to make a change in our own country.

I am reminded of a Leonard Cohen song entitled “ANTHEM”. Cohen said “There is a crack in everything that you can put together: physical object, mental objects, construction of any kind. But that is where the light gets in, and that’s where the resurrection is and that is where the return to repentance is. It is with the confrontation of things and in the brokenness of things.”

This is the refrain of his song Anthem:

Ring the bells that still can ring. Forget your perfect offering.

There is a crack, a crack in everything. That is how the light gets in. Amen

March Event Calendar

| | | |
|---------------|------------------------|---|
| Sunday | 4th | Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Installation of Church Council |
| Thursday | 8 th | Lutheran/Anglican Pastors Meeting 9:30 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. St. Timothy's, Pembroke |
| Saturday | 10 th | Men's Breakfast at Jim's Restaurant 8:30 a.m. |
| Sunday | 11th | Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Fourth Sunday in Lent – Welcome guest organist, Craig Burkett |
| Sunday | 18th | Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Fifth Sunday in Lent |
| Monday | 19 th | Church Council Meeting at St. John's 7:30 p.m. |



Join Us for Our Journey Through Holy Week



| | | |
|---------------|----------------------------|--|
| Sunday | 25th | Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Palm Sunday |
| Thursday | 29 th | Worship Service <u>at St. James Renfrew</u> 5:30 p.m. Maundy Thursday SEDER Potluck Supper at 6:00 p.m. |
| Friday | 30 th | Worship Service at <u>St. John's Arnprior</u> 10:00 a.m. Good Friday |
| Sunday | Apr. 1st | Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Easter Sunday – Welcome guest organist Lynn Zander Men's Breakfast Group Hosting Easter Sunday Breakfast 9:15 a.m. at St. John's – see page 5 for more details |

| | | |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---|
| Sunday | April 8th | Worship Service with Holy Communion 10:30 a.m. Second Sunday of Easter |
|---------------|-----------------------------|---|



Sign up in the Narthex if you would like to sponsor communion, bulletins or provide flowers for the altar in memory of a loved one or to honour a special event.



St. John's Lutheran Church
Arnprior

Council Meeting Minutes - February 19, 2018

- After opening devotions, four new Council members were welcomed. Council agreed that March 4th, 2018 would be the date for the new Council Installation, which will be held during the Service
- Council then proceeded with the nomination of an outstanding Executive position on Council - Secretary. David B. was nominated to the position.

Pastor's Report:

- Pastor described the activities that she has been involved in since the last Council meeting, which included Ash Wednesday Service, Men's Breakfast, Ottawa Valley Lutheran Pastors Pembroke among others.
- Pastor also reminded Council of the dates and locations for the Easter Week Services.
 - Palm Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – St. John's
 - Maundy Thursday worship service with meal following, 5:30 p.m. – St James
 - Good Friday, 10:00 a.m. – St. John's.
 - Easter Sunday, 10:30 a.m. – St. John's
 - April 22nd –Doug Reble – 10:00 a.m. potluck lunch at St. James; no service at St. John's

Appointment to the Shared Ministry Committee:

- Joanne B and Jeff K have volunteered to represent St. John's, with Ryan Z, on the Shared Ministry Committee.

Financial Report:

- Randy Z provided an update on Profit and Losses. Income matched almost perfectly with what was budgeted. After accounting for expenses, the largest of which is associated with pastoral ministry, there was a loss (deficit) of approximately \$2100.
- Randy Z pointed out that attendance was down compared to this time last year. A variety of reasons are likely responsible for this.
- Randy Z reviewed the initiatives contained within the 7 Point Financial Plan to Rebuild St. John's. It was noted that several tasks were completed thanks to the dedication of members of the congregation and Council.
 - Repairs to the roof are badly needed and so will occur in late April or early May. Help to repair the roof will be sought from members of the congregation. The goal is to strip the roof on Thursday and do the construction/structural work on Friday and then lay the roof on Saturday.
 - Basement water-proofing is another project that may require attention. Randy Z. has contacted a professional who will come on March 6th to assess the foundation and provide a quote.
 - A Marketing Team has been developed that will be chaired by Alison B, with the assistance of Pastor, with additional members to be added over the next couple of weeks.
 - A bazaar has been planned and is scheduled to occur in May.
 - The Big Give will be on June 2nd -idea to provide volunteer services to shut-ins was well-received.
 - The Hike For Hospice Renfrew is scheduled for May 6th

Committee Reports:

- Jeff K talked about the Compassionate Justice Grant (\$1000) which we received for the snack pack program. The Grant is funded by Synod.

Respectfully submitted on behalf of church council,
Ryan Zimmerling

Easter Breakfast



**Easter Sunday, April 1st
9:15 a.m.**

St. John's Church Basement

You're Invited!

The monthly Men's Breakfast group is making breakfast!

On the menu – **pancakes, bacon, eggs, toast, coffee, tea and juice.**

Free will donations will go towards the roof repairs.

Easter Sunday Children's Activities Include...

A theatrical performance by the St. John's children during worship service

And...

Children's Easter Egg hunt during Sunday School!



*Happy 72nd
Anniversary*

Bill & Marion!

Photo courtesy of Lorne Rueckwald

Don't Forget!



March 10th

8:30 a.m.
Jim's Restaurant
In Arnprior

Please consider joining us
for good food
and good conversation!



Know any students or recent graduates interested in social justice?

CPJ's 2018-2019 Public Justice Internship

Are you passionate about public justice? Committed to help eradicate poverty in Canada? Resolved to strive for rights for refugees?

Each year, [CPJ's Public Justice Internship Program](#) provides recent graduates with the opportunity to explore the meaning of public justice and join us in Ottawa. For one year, from **September 2018 to August 2019**, two interns will assist CPJ in our work on **refugee rights** and **poverty in Canada**.

CPJ is now accepting applications for our [2018-2019 Public Justice Internship Program!](#)

Apply by March 25, 2018

For more info: https://cpj.ca/public-justice-internship-2018-2019?utm_source=justicENEWS&utm_campaign=152d64c01c-Intern_Mar_201%26_PJ_Intern-2&utm_medium=email&utm_term=0_00b7fceacb-152d64c01c-131975553

Church Garage Sale

Coming in May

Start Collecting Now!!



If you happen to be going through your house completing early spring cleaning and discover things you no longer need, please put them aside for our **Church Garage Sale in May**. **Only children's clothes up to age 6 will be accepted. No adult clothes, foot wear or electronics.**

Accepting household items, furniture, decorations, linens, books and toys. Please talk to co-ordinators Barbara Formuziewich or Beryl Richardson if you have any questions.

History of Our Organ

The original organ for St. John's was purchased in 1892 and was a manual pump organ. Pictures of this can be seen on the wall in the church basement. It was located in the corner where our hymn board now is, to the left of the pulpit. Early documents suggest that the congregation purchased this for \$25. Since this was still when the congregation was newly formed, not surprisingly there were no funds available within the congregation to complete the purchase and the money was donated by Pastor Rembe.



In-1958-59 the congregation purchased an electric Hammond organ. This was moved upstairs and was a major upgrade in both sound quality and volume. The organ was dedicated to the memory of World War II veterans who died in service and a plaque was attached to the organ. The purchase of this organ was a major financial commitment for the congregation (\$3,400 range).

The decision to acquire our existing Casavant pipe organ was not taken lightly and did not come without controversy. The idea to purchase was put forth by our organist at the time (Martin Oelsner) who felt that a pipe organ would bring a major boost to our Sunday worship and music experience. It was also felt that the existing Hammond organ would be too expensive to repair.

The congregation was hesitant to take on the financial commitment for the purchase. It had just completed some major renovations in the worship area costing \$11,000 and left the congregation almost \$6,000 in debt. The annual meeting of 1968 ended with a decision to postpone any further debt and reconsider in 1969. In 1970 a decision to proceed with the purchase was put into play.

It appears that Martin Oelsner donated the rank of pipes we now have (not the original set sold to St. Girard-Majellan).

Our existing pipe organ was built by renowned St. Hyacinth organ builders – Casavant et Freres in 1919 and sold to the Roman Catholic parish of St. Girard-Majella in Ottawa. Delivery and installation were included in the price of \$1,850. The model of this organ is Opus 801. While similar, it is not as old as the pipe organ at Emmanuel Anglican Church in town (delivered in 1900). Online pictures of another organ built by Casavant in the same time frame (Opus 802) can be seen by googling the Ottawa Korean Community Church. The massive rank of pipes adds to the extraordinary look of this organ.

Our pipe organ came to St. John's in 1971; the price of the console was \$2,100. The congregation took out a promissory note for \$1,600 and Martin Oelsner, our organist at the time, donated his salary of \$600 per year to help offset costs and he donated the pipes. Members of the property committee (including my father Theo Zimmerling) assisted with the installation. Other than replacing the rail in the organ loft, the installation of this organ and pipes seemed to go off without any issues and was only noted as a footnote along with many other projects completed during 1971. It appears that the commemorating plaque on the side of our organ actually came off our previous Hammond organ and was attached to the Opus 801.

In 1978-79 we spent an additional two thousand dollars to update the wiring and repair the leathers on our pipe organ. This repair and the organ tuning for a number of years was performed by John Fyall & Sons of Plainfield, Ontario.

Again, this was not without controversy as some felt we were spending too much money on an 'old' asset. As time has passed the equipment has stood the test of time and now our repair technician has estimated that the replacement cost for insurance purposes could be in the \$225,000 range. When we compare our cost of repair with others (Emmanuel Anglican Church in Arnprior spent over \$20,000 in repairs in the 90's) it doesn't seem to be as exorbitant as some members believed it to be at that time.

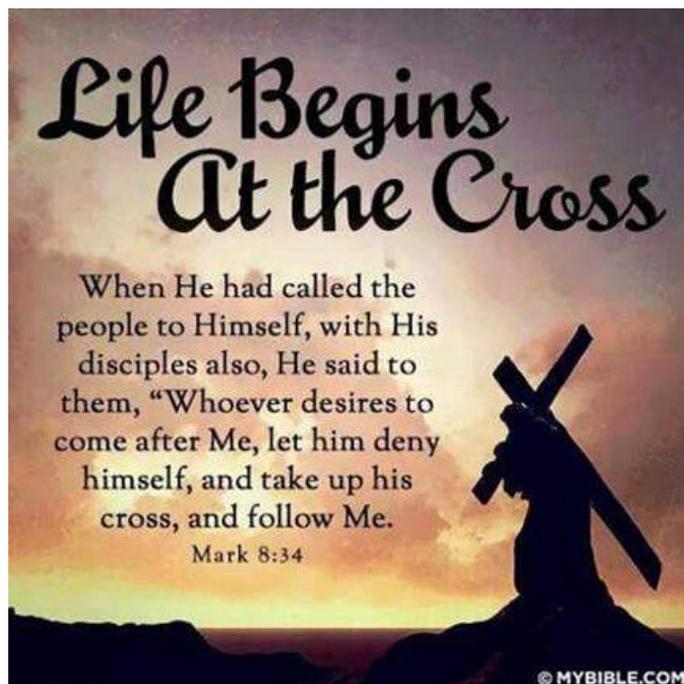
Throughout the years we have enjoyed the talents of skilled musicians who have coaxed the very best sound from our pipe organ. The list of organists includes; Martin Oelsner, Mildred Sauer, Jim Ennis, Jim Dorion, Debbie Bernard (part-time) and Alexandra Bantseev.

We still have some gaps in the history details to fill in:

Where did the organ go after the congregation of St. Girard-Majellan parted with it? Our records suggest that we purchased the organ from Raymond L. Barnes who was the regional rep. for Cassavant et Freres.

We will continue to search out other sources of information as they become available and add it to background history of the Opus 801 pipe organ.

Submitted by Randy Zimmerling.



An Easter Prayer

This Easter I am thankful for...

*The gentle hands that nurtured me,
The beloved hands that comfort me,
The Blessed hands that bled for me,
And all the hands that pray for me.*

A prayer by Samantha Fernando at Starsafire Poems

Upcoming Events...



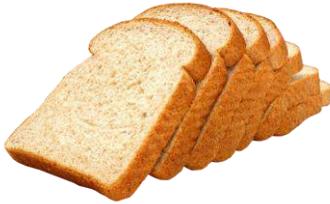
Participating in the Christ Consciousness
Lay Spiritual Retreat - April 6-8, 2018
 @Mount Carmel Spiritual Centre, Niagara Falls, Ontario
www.easternsynod.org



Galilee Events...

- Mar. 2nd-3rd Discernment Days for Young Adults
- Mar. 6th - The Art of Soul Care – A Pathway
Apr. 17th Toward Spiritual Transformation
- Mar. 21st Spring Luncheon
- Mar. 26th - Holy Week
Mar. 29th An Imaginative Immersion

For more information and costs associated with various events, please visit the website at:
<https://www.galileecentre.com/workshops-events/>



Have you registered for your \$25 Loblaw Card?

Loblaw's discovered that some Canadians were overcharged for packaged bread between January 2002 and March 2015.

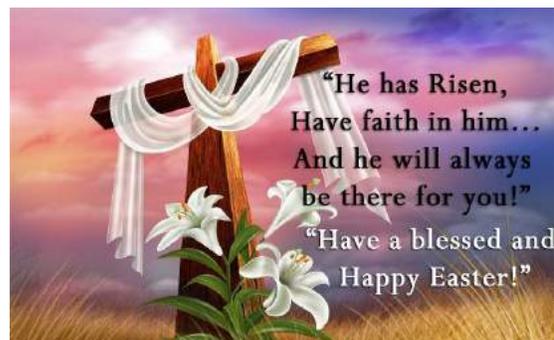
You can register to receive a \$25 Loblaw card to be used in their stores. If you need help registering for your card, please contact Dave Burkett or Jeff Kargus.

"Food" for thought...

Some members of St. John's have decided to register for the card and donate them to the Arnprior Food Bank.

Arnprior Food Bank Currently Needed Items

- ✓ Toilet paper
- ✓ Diapers especially size 5 or 6; Baby food
- ✓ Cans of salmon, ham, chicken, turkey (not tuna now)
- ✓ Cans of peaches, pears
- ✓ Rice a Roni or other rice meals
- ✓ Hamburger helper, etc.
- ✓ Oatmeal packs
- ✓ Instant coffee, Hot chocolate



Postings in the Narthex

- Eastern Synod Lutheran Monthly Newsletter (or access online at: <http://www.easternsynod.org/>)
- Upcoming events at Galilee Centre – website at <http://www.galileecentre.com/programs/>

Check This Out!

March 7th - Arnprior Public Library: Canadian Peace Initiative Event – Arnprior & Area Chapter
 All welcome, no charge, 6:30 p.m. – Gaumond Room Info: Enid at 613-623-7017



Helpers for Ushering and Counting are needed!
 If you can help for a Sunday, please sign up in the Narthex.



VOLUNTEER SCHEDULE FOR MARCH 2018

| SUNDAY | USHERS | READING | COFFEE/SOCIAL | COUNTERS |
|--|---|---------------------------|---|----------------------------|
| Mar. 4 th | Keith and Beryl Richardson | Mark Boese | Joanne and Lorne Bretzlaff | Keith and Beryl Richardson |
| Mar. 11 th | Keith and Beryl Richardson | Cathy or Randy Zimmerling | Barb and Gerry Formuziewich | Keith and Beryl Richardson |
| Mar. 18 th | Keith and Beryl Richardson | Maureen Rueckwald | Cathy and Randy Zimmerling | Keith and Beryl Richardson |
| Mar. 25 th | Keith and Beryl Richardson | Andy Kalnins | Lois and Pastor | Keith and Beryl Richardson |
| Mar. 29 th Mar. 30 th | Maundy Thursday Service in Renfrew – SEDER Potluck Supper follows Good Friday Service in Arnprior Readers are Joy Statham, Mark Boese, Debbie Kargus | | | |
| Apr. 1 st Easter Sunday | Elmer and Marion Leeck | Maureen Rueckwald | Breakfast Hosted by Men's Group | Elmer and Marion Leeck |
| Apr. 8 th | Elmer and Marion Leeck | Andy Kalnins | Maureen and Lorne Rueckwald | Elmer and Marion Leeck |

Thank you, volunteers! If you would like to help out, please sign-up in the Narthex!

Note: Volunteers are needed weekly.

Free training is available! 😊 If interested, talk to a council member.

Website: <http://stjohnsarnprior.com>



<http://www.facebook.com/pages/St-Johns-Lutheran-Church-Arnprior/302930049856065>