



## St. John's News

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2023



**This September I celebrate two years of ministry at St. John's, Altamont.** In the last two years I've learned that this congregation has a heart to connect and care for the community. I've also seen that the people of St. John's will support efforts to care for others from drives to gather items for a homeless shelter to supporting local families in need.

**Another anniversary is approaching**, 10 years of God's Work, Our Hands Sunday. An effort every September to have ELCA congregations work to do some type of service for their neighbors. This September we will once again connect with our community by being a sponsor of Altamont's Fall Fest. See the Article on page 6 for more details.

**We can build on our connection to the community** for the benefit of anyone experiencing food insecurity in our community. At our most recent church Council meeting I proposed the idea of hosting a Little Free Pantry and inviting the community to help us steward it. There are more details about Little Free Pantries in another article in the newsletter where you can get more information about how a Little Free Pantry works. We have found a design we can build ourselves and the council will discuss where to place it on our grounds at the next council meeting.

**We can do God's Work with Our Hands** by telling others, handing out flyers or brochures about the little free pantry, or grabbing a few essentials to bring with you to worship that you can place in the pantry on your way into the building.

**When you come to worship, remember** that we continue to worship at 9:30am through Labor day weekend, and will return to worship at 11:00am on Sunday, September 10<sup>th</sup>.



Rynn Baumgartner at her recital at Lutheran Summer Music at Valparaiso University.

 Upstate New York Synod  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America



**WE HAVE  
MOVED!**

Upstate New York Synod  
116 W. Glen Ave.,  
Syracuse, NY 13205



### Committee updates

- Christian Ed is working on events to bring youth together. Save the date for Ugly Ornament Contest, December 3, 2023 and plan on the Famine to be held in February 2024.
- Stewardship Committee is working with Altamont Community Traditions to be a sponsor for the Fall Fun Day on September 23, 2023 in the park. See St. John's joins sponsors for Fall Fun Day in this newsletter.
- Property committee is always busy maintaining our beautiful church and parsonage. We have two ongoing projects that need three bids each as each project will be over \$1,000. We have only received one bid for each project. Do know of a contractor who might be interested in bidding? Do you have ideas on how we can raise money for these projects? Please let me know. The two projects are:
  - Have you looked at our driveway lately? It is in desperate need of being redone. Our insurance company has warned us that it is a safety risk.
  - Look on the left side of the church, parsonage side, the wood is rotting. Ignoring this will allow the problem to worsen and more costly to fix in the future.

If you are interested in joining any of our committees, please reach out to me. Committee work is where our hands are doing Jesus's work in the community.

Blessings,  
Linda Zell  
Council President





"A bunch of us went on a field trip to Utica to meet Mindy. We had a lovely time catching up on the happenings in our lives. Good food and dessert were of course part of the adventure. Blessed. "

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## Fall Worship Schedule

We will return to our fall to spring worship schedule on **September 10th.**

### Sunday Morning Schedule

8:30am Brew Coffee with Pastor Reimer, Kitchen

8:45am Morning Prayer, Sanctuary

9:45am Bible Study and Discussion, Parish Hall

11:00am Worship, Sanctuary



## **Community Worship Service In the Park**

**Sunday, August 20, 2023, 10:00am**

*All members of the Altamont community are invited – please remember to bring your lawn chairs!*

Participating churches are: Altamont Reformed, Helderberg Reformed &  
St. John's Lutheran

Offerings will go to the appropriate churches as noted on envelope;  
Loose offerings will go to the Altamont Food Pantry

*(Rain location is here at St. John's)*



## What Is A Little Free Pantry?

**Altamont has a food pantry, as does Guilderland.** They are open for specific hours, on certain days to give food to clients. These are necessary and vital ministries that we currently and should continue to support. We can also add another layer to care for those experiencing food insecurity, a Little Free Pantry.

**A little Free Pantry is essentially an outdoor cabinet stocked with non-perishable food** items available to anyone at any time. It is an easy way for neighbors to help neighbors who need food, hygiene, or paper items.

Even though it will be housed on St. John's grounds, **it will belong to everyone in the community.** Everyone is invited to give what they can by placing food, hygiene, or paper items inside the mini pantry.

**Give what you would want to receive.** An easy rule of thumb: buy extra of what you buy for your household. No gift is too small. A single can of green beans can help. Items should be unexpired and in good condition.

**Take what you need.** If anyone needs an item in the Little Free Pantry they are invited to take it and know that we care about them.

**Little Free Pantries work best when they are the work of an entire neighborhood, not just an effort of one congregation.**





## **LCW Schedule for the remainder of 2023**

### **September 15**

Dinner committee – Linda Zell  
Mexico themed  
Program committee – Megan Connolly

### **October 20**

Dinner committee – Denise Johnstone  
Program – Outreach LCW program

### **November 17**

Dinner committee – Jana Grant  
Program – Baskets – bidding 11/20, 27 & 12/4

### **December 15**

Dinner committee – Courtney Reimer  
Christmas program  
Grab bag  
Cookie exchange

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## **ALTAMONT FALL FUN DAY**

All are welcome to attend and volunteer on Saturday, September 23rd to help Altamont Community Traditions (ACT) present another Fall Fun Day in Orsini Park. St. John's is co-sponsoring the family games, tours, ice cream, cider, vendors and entertainment to help keep the event free for visitors and provide outreach for St. John's ministries. Contact Phil Alban or Kirby Wilson for more information.

**July Birthdays**

- 1 Pat Rau
- 3 John James Edw. Chevalier
- 4 Karen Covert-Jones
- 4 Thomas Perlee
- 5 Tom Koskey
- 6 Lorie Spawn
- 7 Thomas E. Rau
- 7 Matthew Dean
- 8 Kristen Dean
- 8 Emily Romano
- 11 Kathy Gaige
- 12 Kevin Connolly
- 12 Madelyn Perlee
- 15 Devon Baldauf
- 16 Lynne Baldauf
- 17 Madi McCabe
- 17 Carol Austin
- 19 Dan Frinta
- 19 Josiah Reimer
- 20 Christopher McCabe
- 27 Christopher LeClair
- 27 Mindy Zajac
- 31 Greg Lemmerman



**August Birthdays**

- 1 Sara Johnson
- 2 Matthew McCabe
- 4 Julianna Peek
- 7 Alyssa Gaige
- 9 Don Snyder
- 12 Sarah Frick
- 17 Joyce Donato
- 17 Danielle Peck
- 20 Allison Grant
- 21 John Jewell
- 21 Tyler Grant
- 21 Johnny Catalfamo
- 23 Richard Peek
- 24 Elaine Van De Carr
- 26 Brad Grant



- 7/19/14-Ronald & Diana Genre
- 7/22/89-Robert & Terry Freeman
- 7/29/17-Shane & Tracy Sprague
- 8/10/91- Greg & Lisa Peck
- 8/12/22-Terry & Lorie Spawn



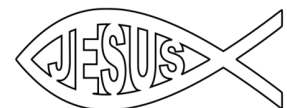
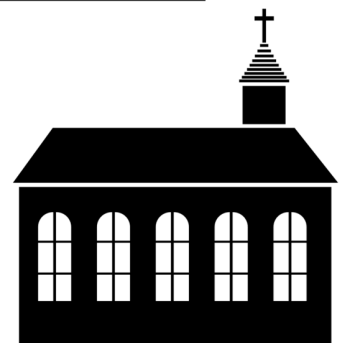
# ✝ Church is Fun ✝

## Word Search



Word list:

- |              |            |           |
|--------------|------------|-----------|
| BELIEF       | FRIENDSHIP | JOY       |
| BLESSINGS    | GIVING     | LOVE      |
| CHRIST       | GOD        | MERCY     |
| CHURCH       | GRACE      | OBEDIENCE |
| COMPASSION   | GUIDANCE   | PATIENCE  |
| COURAGE      | HEALING    | PEACE     |
| ETERNAL      | HEAVEN     | SALVATION |
| FAITH        | HOLY       | SPIRIT    |
| FAITHFULNESS | HOPE       | TRUTH     |
| FORGIVENESS  | JESUS      | WISDOM    |



## WELCOME

Welcome to St. John's Lutheran Church, a faith community united in love, filled with hope, and open to the power and gentleness of a holy spirit within us. We invite you to be part of the St. John's faith community. You are welcome at worship, in Sunday church school, at Fellowship events, at bible study and prayer gatherings. Together we can share our faith stories and continue on our spiritual journeys.



Thank you, Lord for:

**Return Service requested**

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
140 Maple Avenue  
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Altamont, NY 12009