



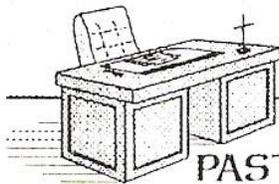
The Messenger

April 2018

A Publication of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK

*But go, tell his disciples and Peter that Jesus is
going ahead of you to Galilee;
there you will see him, just as he told you.'*
(Mark 16:7)

I have always found myself inspired by the young man's words to the women from the empty tomb.

Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome were understandably frightened. They had brought spices to anoint our Saviour's lifeless body. But when they arrived, they noticed that the stone had already been rolled away...and that the tomb was empty. Mark tells us that terror and amazement seized them.

But while the words from the tomb were certainly directed at those first early visitors, I believe that they are also directed at us.

GO, the young man directs the women. **Go, tell his disciples that Jesus is alive. He has gone ahead of you. You will see him again, just as he promised!**

There is something so very inspiring about these urgent instructions! While our inclination may indeed be to hang out around the empty tomb rejoicing and celebrating the joy of the resurrection; the gospel of Mark pushes us to go one step further. Mark's instructions are for

us to channel our resurrection joy into the Easter work which rests before us. It's the work of feeding the hungry. Comforting the grieving. Caring for the lonely. Listening to the silenced. Bearing hope to the hopeless. Clothing the naked. Welcoming the precariously housed. Loving the forgotten. Being present, to God and with those we love.

For this work is just as urgent today, as it was when light first pierced death's dark veil.

Blessed and Happy Easter! May the hope of this day be proclaimed with our voices, by our hands, and through our very lives!



.....Save The Date.....

*Spring
Adult Ed.*

*5 Tuesdays at 3pm
beginning April 24, 2018*

All Are Welcome
St. John's Lutheran Church, Mahone Bay

+ Cantata: The Lenten Sketches

On Sunday, March 25 at 7pm the Cantata "The Lenten Sketches" will be presented at St. John's Lutheran Church by the Senior Choir and friends of the choir. Through music and art the last days of Christ's life will be portrayed. Our handbells will also be participating in this event. All are invited to this contemplative evening as are friends and other community members.

+ KAIROS Blanket Exercise

The Council of Canadians is planning to hold a Blanket Exercise in Mahone Bay. This is an interactive exercise focused on Indigenous relationships which teaches the history that most of us have never learned. Developed by the Aboriginal Rights Coalition the exercise uses blankets to represent the lands, of what is not known as Canada, and the distinct cultures and nations that live on those lands to this day. A narration goes through the history of treaty-making, colonization, and resistance, resulting in the nation we call Canada. The exercise is followed by a Talking Circle and the whole event may last two hours. This event will be open to the public on Wednesday, May 9 from 7-9pm at the Mahone Bay Centre.

+ Camp Bursaries

Once again this year, the Mahone Bay Interchurch Council will be offering bursaries to any local child who wishes to attend a faith-based camp. To apply, please use the applications posted on the bulletin board. For more information, please speak with Pastor Adam. Applications are due May 18.

+ VON Programs

Our local Lunenburg County VON has a vibrant history of providing much needed assistance to local residents. Recently, South Shore Helping Hands came under the VON umbrella. Additionally, VON also offers two meals programs. Wheels to Meals takes place at St. James' hall once per month, and there are also a wide selection of nutritious, low-sodium, home-style meals available through the Frozen Favourites program. For more information, please contact Elisabeth Bailey by calling (902) 624-0318.

HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

There are a rich variety of worship opportunities throughout Holy Week. You are invited to make use of these services as a means of preparing your heart for the joy of Easter.

Passion Cantata - March 25, 7pm

Inspired by the life and message of Jesus Christ, artists in every medium have endeavored to capture the magnificence of His ministry among us. Our 2018 Passion Cantata, *The Lenten Sketches*, facilitates this time of reflection and prayer.

Maundy Thursday - March 29, 7pm

Gathered in a candlelit sanctuary, we will recall our Saviour's final moments through the ancient washing of hands, breaking of bread, and stripping of the altar.

Good Friday - March 30, 11am - Baptist

Good Friday unites us into one community as we gather for an ecumenical worship service at the United Baptist Church. Hear again our Saviour's words from the cross, and enter prayerfully into the mystery of faith.

Stations of the Cross - March 31, 11am-2pm

As we await the glory of Easter, St. John's welcomes you to pray the stations of the cross as facilitated by Barbara February's 2018 Lenten series. Come and go as you are able. Direction provided.

Easter Breakfast - April 1, 9am-10:30am

Join us on Easter morning from 9am-10:30am for our annual Easter Breakfast. Enjoy sausages, pancakes, hard-boiled eggs, fruit, a variety of baked goods as well as tea, coffee, and juice. Freewill offering.

Easter Sunday - April 1, 11am

We gather in stillness, as we await to hear the joyful proclamation that our Lord has risen! Rich music, ancient story, and sacred liturgy guides us from the font to the table as we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord.

All Are Welcome!

There is a place for you at St. John's!

+ Administrative Changes

On behalf of the entire congregation and council, we extend a heartfelt word of thanks to two incredibly people who have deeply contributed to the administrative life of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.

Judy Bonnell - Parish Co-Ordinator

Judy has served as St. John's Parish Co-ordinator for 26 years. She has faithfully contributed to the life of this congregation, and has been the friendly smile when you visit the office, and warm voice on the other end of the phone. Judy's last day in the office will be Thursday, March 29.

Jane Winchcombe - Financial Secretary

Jane has served as the Financial Secretary of St. John's for the past two years. She has carefully monitored our finances and cared for our accounts.

In an effort to be good stewards of our resources, while also ensuring our ability to offer a sustainable employment opportunity, the Congregational Council has decided to combine the Parish Co-ordinator and Financial Secretary roles into a new *Parish Office Manager* position. This decision is a prayerful result of the discussion which developed at our annual meeting. This new expanded position will also seek to meet the ever-evolving needs of our congregation and wider community.

Please take the opportunity to express your appreciation to Judy and Jane over the coming weeks. Their hard work, service, and dedication to the people of St. John's has been a true gift!

+ Palestinian Liberation Presentation

Rev. Dr. Naim Ateek is the leading voice of the Palestinian liberation theology movement. He is co-founder and former director of Sabeel Ecumenical Liberation Theology Centre in Jerusalem and author of several books and articles on justice and reconciliation in the Holy Land. He will be in Halifax as part of a Canada wide tour to launch his newest book on "The Bible, Justice and the Palestine-Israel Conflict." Hear Naim Ateek speak on Sunday, April 29th at 7pm at SMU, Sobey's building, 923 Robie Street, Halifax. Sponsors: Department of Religious Studies, SMU, Anglican Diocese of NSPEI, United Network for Justice and Peace for Palestine and Israel, KAIROS Halifax and Atlantic, and

Canadians, Arabs and Jews for a Just Peace. All are welcome!

+ Operation Christmas Child & CLWR

Mt. Calvary, Upper Northfield will be hosting a BOWLING Bingo fundraiser at Pajo's Bowling Alley in Lunenburg on Saturday April 21st from 5:45 to 7:45 pm. Put a team of ten together or sign up and we'll put you on a team. \$10 each plus \$2 for shoes to bowl for 2 hours, win prizes and have FUN. All ages welcome! Register your team with Brenda Fancey (543-2003), or by signing up with Pastor Adam. Proceeds support 2018 Operation Christmas Child & CLWR project.

+ Coffee Break

We will gather for a Coffee Break on Wednesday, April 18 at 10:30am at the Biscuit Eater Cafe. A Coffee Break is an informal time to gather for fellowship and refreshment. Consider joining us as we *take over the cafe*.

+ Joy Journal

Birthday greetings are extended to the following in the month of April:

April 1	Melanie Nauss
April 3	Joel Martell
April 6	Azelyn MacAdam Luke Aulenback
April 8	Marjorie Barry
April 10	Angela Zinck
April 11	Heather Hirtle Joshua Wawin
April 13	Jocelyn Wentzell
April 15	Juliana Barry
April 16	Wilfred Wentzell
April 17	Lance Knickle Jason Winchcombe
April 18	Lillian Temple
April 22	Ken Knickle
April 25	Logan Norman
April 27	Justin Oickle-Demone
April 28	Colin Ernst Spencer Achenbach
April 29	Megan Demone
April 30	Terry Naugler

Anniversary Wishes are extended to the following couples in the month of April:

April 8	Arnold & Susan Fralick
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St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church + April 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>Additions to the calendar will be printed in the bulletin. An updated calendar can be viewed on our church website. Announcements for the May 2018 calendar are due to the church office by <u>April 20</u>.</p>						
1 <i>Easter Sunday</i> 9-10:30am - Breakfast 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am - Sunday School	2 <i>Easter Monday</i>	3 Office Closed 6-9pm - Leslee Rehearsal	4 2:30pm -Mahone Nursing Worhsip 5pm - VON Meeting	5 9am-2pm – Office 6:30pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	6 9am-2pm – Office	7
8 <i>Easter 2</i> 11am - Worship (Communion) 11am - Sunday School 12pm - Worship Cmmt.	9	10 9am-2pm – Office 6-9pm - Leslee Rehearsal	11 2:30pm - Mahone Nursing Worship	12 9am-2pm – Office 6:30pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	13 9am-2pm – Office 4pm - 3CF	14
15 <i>Easter 3</i> 11am - Worship (Service of the Word) 11am - Sunday School 12pm - Fellowship	16	17 9am-2pm – Office 7pm - Council	18 10:30am - Coffee Break	19 9am-2pm – Office 6:30pm - Choir	20 9am-2pm – Office Newsletter Announcements Due to Church Office	21 5:45-7:45pm - OCC Bowling Fundraiser
22 <i>Easter 4</i> 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am - Sunday School	23	24 9am-2pm – Office 3pm - Adult Education	25	26 9am-2pm – Office 6:30pm - Choir	27 9am-2pm – Office	28
29 <i>Easter 5</i> 11am - Worship (Service of the Word) 11am - Sunday School	30					
						