



The Messenger

October 2018

A Publication of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Mahone Bay, Nova Scotia
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*Let all things now living a song of thanksgiving to
God the creator triumphantly raise, who fashioned
and made us, protected and stayed us, who still
guides us on to the end of our days!*
(#881 - Let All Things Now Living)

This past summer, Holly and I spent a considerable amount of time in the Valley. On our vacation, and when time would allow, we camped atop the North Mountain overlooking the fertile fields of the Southern Bight of the Minas Basin.

And here is what we learned: farming never stops! Truthfully.

The fields that formed our neighborhood were continuously being tilled, sown, fertilized, weeded, watered, tended, harvested; and then re-tilled, re-sown, re-fertilized, re-weeded, re-harvested: you get the idea. The labours of those farmers (and their hoards of helpers) appeared ceaseless. Even amidst the drought, when it seemed as though whole fields of crops were certain to be lost, those farmers were trudging through the dusty clay doing everything that they could to ensure a successful and bountiful harvest.

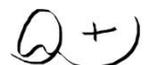
In October, Canadian churches will pause to give thanks to God for the abundance of God's bounty. As the first verse of Hymn #881 reminds us, we will *sing a song of thanksgiving to God our creator who fashioned, made, protected, and guides us on the ends of our days.*

As I consider the many ways in which I, and my family, have been blessed this past year - I can't help but be reminded of those fields...and those persistent farmers. For the truth of the matter is that the whole world is God's field. And the abundance for which we sing praise throughout these October days requires just as much tilling, and sowing, and tending, and helping as did those potatoes and corn plants I watched grow in July and August. Perhaps even moreso. God is persistently ensuring that the seeds of God's word...the hope of God's gospel...and the freedom of God's grace take root and grow all around us. God tirelessly labours to bring the bounty of God's kingdom to glorious flower - and then when those labours have produced their first fruits...our creator calls us to help share the harvest with the whole world.

God is the farmer. The world, and the church, is God's field. But brothers and sisters - we also have a part to play: for we are the hoards of helpers. We are the ones who, following in our leader's footsteps, carry out our calling to ensure that what God has produced is shared far and wide. This harvest, God's harvest, is too valuable to waste.

As we bow our heads and break bread with family and friends this Thanksgiving, may we be ever mindful of the Kingdom's harvest that begs to be shared. And reminded of that harvest, may we be renewed in our passion for the work we are called to do in God's fields!

Happy Thanksgiving!



+ Grocery Gift Cards

Thank you to everyone who supported another successful Gift Card Fundraising campaign. A special thank you to Ethel and Sandra for their coordination and leadership! Our next campaign will occur in November!

+ Stay Connected!

Are you a member of the Atlantic Ministry Area - Lutheran ELCIC Facebook page? (@atlanticlutherans) This page posts events offered by Lutheran churches across the Atlantic Ministry Area. The posted events are your invitation to attend.

+ Adult Education - Fall 2018

Have you ever wondered about the writings that **didn't** make it into our Bible - but which also share the story of Jesus Christ? Join Pastor Adam this fall (Tuesdays @ 3pm: Oct 16-Nov 13) as we explore writings such as: The Infancy Gospel of Thomas, The Gospel of Mary, The Book of the Watchers, and The Apocalypse of Peter...among others!

Our Adult Education Program is intended to be a welcoming, hospitable, and light-hearted place to discuss matters of faith while also addressing materials which broaden our understandings. All are welcome!! The coffee/tea will be on!

+ Common Table

Thank you to everyone who graciously supported our first Common Table event in September! Our second event will take place on October 24 @ 5:30pm.

Common Table is a new community dinner supported by St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. Open to all people, we invite you to gather for a time of fellowship and refreshment around a *common table*. If you are interested in helping with the planning/preparations for this or future events, please speak with Pastor Adam!

+ Pulpit Exchange Sunday

On Sunday, October 14 the clergy in Lunenburg County will be *switching pulpits!* Pastor Adam will be leading worship at St. Paul's, Bridgewater - and Pastor Svante Olson will be leading worship in Upper Northfield and Mahone Bay!

This event is intended to bolster a sense of community between congregations. Please come

out to welcome Pastor Olson and show true St. John's hospitality!

+ Autumn Decorations

On Thanksgiving Sunday our worship space will be filled with reminders of God's bountiful goodness. If you would like to donate items (pumpkins, flowers, produce, etc), please leave them at the church, and your gifts will be used to enrich our Thanksgiving worship. Thank you!

+Flu Shot Clinic

Melinda Kerwin will be offering a free Flu Shot clinic at St. John's from 9am-1pm on Friday, October 19. Please sign up in advance by adding your name to the sheet on the bulletin board in the Christian Education Centre.

+ Choir & Handbells

We are very excited to announce that October will mark the return of our Choir and Thursday Handbell group. Choir will meet to rehearse beginning at 6:45pm on Thursday evenings; with the Thursday Handbells following at 8pm. Anyone who may be interested in joining either of these groups is asked to please speak with Rebecca or Gale. Welcome Back!!!

+ Kid's Night @ St. John's

Children of all ages (and their parents/guardians) are invited to gather at St. John's on October 19 from 5:30pm-7pm for an evening of pizza and pumpkin decorating! Come out and enjoy a wonderful meal and lots of fun. Please sign up by speaking with Pastor Adam or calling the church office.

+ County-Wide Reformation Service

This year, the County-Wide Joint Reformation Sunday Service will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church, Mahone Bay. Lutherans from across Lunenburg County will gather at St. John's on **October 28 at 10:30am**. The service will be led by a wide variety of lay and ordained ministers, and will feature a joint-choir. Sunday School will be offered for any children in attendance! The festivities continue after service with a light-reception and fellowship (pot-luck style). Please mark your calendars, and plan to attend this annual event! How good it is, when we can worship together!

+ Pastor Adam on Vacation

Pastor Adam will be on vacation from September 21-October 4. In the event of a pastoral emergency during that time, please contact Rev. Rick Pryse, Zion Lutheran - 634-8395.

+ Confirmation

Confirmation Classes will begin on October 13 (9am-12pm). We will be participating in the Camp Clean-Up, and then going to the Barn for refreshments/discussion! Please let Pastor Adam know if you, your child/grandchild would like to participate. Confirmation has been scheduled for Pentecost Sunday, June 9 during our regular worship service.

+ Meals on Wheels

The Mahone Bay Area Meals on Wheels currently has openings for folks who would benefit from a hot meal delivered to their home twice per week. Meals are available every Tuesday and Thursday at noon. A full dinner with bread and dessert will be provided for only \$3.50/meal. Residents of Mahone Bay, Maders Cove, Blockhouse, Clearland, Oakland, Indian Point and Martin's River are eligible. For more information, or to apply, please call Charles Uhlman at (902) 624-9363.

+ Camp Mush-A-Mush Fall Clean-Up

Fall Clean-Up has been scheduled for October 13th beginning at 9am. Please consider joining us as we prepare the camp for the winter season.

+ Joy Journal

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

Oct 3	Jayden Joudrey
Oct 4	Tanya Frowd
Oct 6	Katherine Lowe
Oct 9	Thatcher Arenburg
Oct 10	Bonnie Duncan
Oct 12	Neva Wentzell
Oct 15	Kendra Ernst
Oct 17	Murray Aulenback Pastor Adam Snook
Oct 21	Doug Wentzell Liam Wamboldt
Oct 23	Brianna Andrews David Young
Oct 25	Brogan & Marissa Mason
Oct 27	Rachael Wawin
Oct 31	Jeffrey Knickle

Anniversary wishes are also extended:

Oct 2	Cameron & Vickie Joudrey
Oct 6	Errol & Pat Joudrey
Oct 7	Heather & Kirk Daurie
Oct 13	Heather & Robert Hirtle

Blessed Autumn Wishes!

COMMON —TABLE

A NEW MONTHLY COMMUNITY DINNER
AT ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

A place of community where all are
welcome to gather around a 'common
table' for refreshment & fellowship!

JOIN US: October 24 @ 5:30pm



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church + October 2018

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Additional and/or changes to the church calendar will be announced in the weekly bulletin Announcements for the November 2018 newsletter are due to the church office by Friday, October 19, 2018.						
30 <i>Pentecost 19</i> 11am - Worship (Service of the Word) 11am - Sunday School	1 6:30pm - Mother & Daughter Choir	2 9am-2pm – Office	3 5pm - VON Meeting	4 9am-2pm – Office 6:45pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	5 9am-2pm – Office	6
Pastor Adam on Vacation - Sept 20 - Oct 4						
7 <i>Thanksgiving Sunday</i> 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am - Sunday School	8 6:30pm - Mother & Daughter Choir	9 9am-2pm – Office	10	11 9am-2pm – Office 6:45pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	12 9am-2pm – Office	13 9am - Camp Mush Fall Clean-Up 9am-12pm - Confirmation Class
Pastor Adam Away - Conference						
14 <i>Pulpit Switch Pentecost 21</i> 11am – Worship (Communion) 11am - Sunday School	15 6:30pm - Mother & Daughter Choir	16 9am-2pm – Office 3pm - Adult Ed. 7 pm – Council	17	18 9am-2pm – Office 6:45pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	19 9am-2pm – Office 9am-12pm - Flu Shot Clinic 5:30pm - Pizza & Pumpkins	20
21 <i>Pentecost 22</i> 11am - Worship (Service of the Word) 11am - Sunday School	22 6:30pm - Mother & Daughter Choir	23 9 am-2pm - Office 3pm - Adult Ed.	24 3pm - Interchurch Council (Calvary) 5:30pm - Common Table	25 9am-2pm - Office 6:45pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	26 9am-2pm – Office 4pm - 3CF	27
28 <i>Reformation Sunday</i> 10:30am - Worship (Communion) & Sunday School 11:30am - Fellowship	29 6:30pm - Mother & Daughter Choir	30 9 am-2pm - Office 3pm - Adult Ed.	31 11am - Mahone Nursing Worship	1 9 am-2pm - Office 6:45pm - Choir 8pm - Handbells	2 9 am-2pm - Office	3
Pastor Adam Away - Synod Council						

DONT FORGET - Bring a non-perishable foodbank donation on Thanksgiving Sunday!