

AUGUST 3, 2025

The Crossbeam

A NEWSLETTER FOR OUR ST. JOHN'S PARISH MEMBERS
AND FRIENDS



Sunday, August 3, 2025
8th Sunday after Pentecost,
Year C

TODAY'S TEXTS OFFER INSTRUCTION AND ENCOURAGEMENT FOR ALL WHO ARE OCCASIONALLY OVERWHELMED BY THE "UNHAPPY BUSINESS" OF LIFE. JESUS URGES US TO TAKE CARE AND BE ON GUARD AGAINST ALL KINDS OF GREED. WE WHO HAVE DIED WITH CHRIST IN HOLY BAPTISM HAVE ALSO BEEN RAISED WITH HIM AND ARE ENCOURAGED TO ELEVATE OUR THINKING, SEEKING THE "THINGS THAT ARE ABOVE." TO THAT END WE SEEK THE SUSTENANCE OF THE LORD'S SUPPER AND THE ENCOURAGEMENT OF GOD'S WORD.



From the Pastor's Desk

PSALM 49:1-12

1 HEAR THIS, | ALL YOU PEOPLES;
GIVE EAR, ALL YOU WHO DWELL | IN THE WORLD,
2 YOU OF HIGH DE- | GREE AND LOW,
RICH AND | POOR TOGETHER.
3 MY MOUTH SHALL | SPEAK OF WISDOM,
AND MY HEART SHALL MEDITATE ON | UNDERSTANDING.
4 I WILL INCLINE MY EAR | TO A PROVERB
AND SET FORTH MY RIDDLE UP- | ON THE HARP.
5 WHY SHOULD I BE AFRAID IN | EVIL DAYS,
WHEN THE WICKEDNESS OF THOSE AT MY | HEELS SURROUNDS ME,
6 THE WICKEDNESS OF THOSE WHO PUT THEIR TRUST IN | THEIR OWN PROWESS,
AND BOAST OF | THEIR GREAT RICHES?
7 ONE CAN NEVER RE- | DEEM ANOTHER,
OR GIVE TO GOD THE RANSOM FOR AN- | OTHER'S LIFE;
8 FOR THE RANSOM OF A LIFE | IS SO GREAT
THAT THERE WOULD NEVER BE E- | NOUGH TO PAY IT,
9 IN ORDER TO LIVE FOREV- | ER AND EVER
AND NEVER | SEE THE GRAVE.
10 FOR WE SEE THAT THE WISE DIE ALSO; LIKE THE DULL AND STU- | PID THEY
PERISH
AND LEAVE THEIR WEALTH TO THOSE WHO COME | AFTER THEM.
11 THEIR GRAVES SHALL BE THEIR HOMES FOREVER, THEIR DWELLING PLACES
FROM GENERATION TO | GENERATION,
THOUGH THEY HAD NAMED LANDS AF- | TER THEMSELVES.
12 EVEN THOUGH HONORED, THEY CANNOT | LIVE FOREVER;
THEY ARE LIKE THE | BEASTS THAT PERISH.

ALL HUMAN BEINGS ARE ALONE. NO OTHER PERSON WILL COMPLETELY FEEL LIKE WE DO, THINK LIKE WE DO, ACT LIKE WE DO. EACH OF US IS UNIQUE, AND OUR ALONENESS IS THE OTHER SIDE OF OUR UNIQUENESS. THE QUESTION IS WHETHER WE LET OUR ALONENESS BECOME LONELINESS OR WHETHER WE ALLOW IT TO LEAD US INTO SOLITUDE. LONELINESS IS PAINFUL; SOLITUDE IS PEACEFUL. LONELINESS MAKES US CLING TO OTHERS IN DESPERATION; SOLITUDE ALLOWS US TO RESPECT OTHERS IN THEIR UNIQUENESS AND C"REATE COMMUNITY.

LETTING OUR ALONENESS GROW INTO SOLITUDE AND NOT INTO LONELINESS IS A LIFELONG STRUGGLE. IT REQUIRES CONSCIOUS CHOICES ABOUT WHOM TO BE WITH, WHAT TO STUDY, HOW TO PRAY, AND WHEN TO ASK FOR COUNSEL. BUT WISE CHOICES WILL HELP US TO FIND THE SOLITUDE WHERE OUR HEARTS CAN GROW IN LOVE."

—HENRI J.M. NOUWEN, BREAD FOR THE JOURNEY: A DAYBOOK OF WISDOM AND FAITH (HARPERCOLLINS, 2006), 18.

SOMETHING TO PONDER TODAY.
PEACE AND BLESSINGS THIS DAY.
PASTOR V.



IN-PERSON WORSHIP

THE HOLY SPIRIT GATHERS PEOPLE AROUND THE MEANS OF GRACE—
THE SAVING WORD OF GOD AND THE SACRAMENTS.

FEATURED THIS WEEK:
SATURDAY SPOKEN WORD
5 P.M. - IN-PERSON

THE SUNDAY ASSEMBLY
10A.M. - IN-PERSON SERVICE AND LIVESTREAM
BROADCAST ON OUR [FACEBOOK PAGE](#) AND ON OUR WEBSITE!



[This Weeks Bulletin \(click here\)](#)

ANNOUNCEMENTS & UPCOMING EVENTS

**AUGUST 24TH @ 12PM
WEST SENECA BAND CONCERT HERE
AT ST. JOHN'S**

**SEPTEMBER 13TH
BURCHFEST**



Altar Flowers

**IN LOVING MEMORY OF MY
DEAR WIFE LINDA WILL**

BRIAN

**IN MEMORY OF
FLORENCE WEIXLMANN**

BY BEVERLY WEIXLMANN

YOU CAN REMEMBER OR HONOR A LOVED ONE OR A SPECIAL OCCASION BY ORDERING A FLORAL ARRANGEMENT USING THE ALTAR FLOWER CALENDAR LOCATED IN THE NARTHEX.



SATURDAY AUGUST 2 @ 5P.M.
KEN KLOPPER- ASSISTING MINISTER

SUNDAY AUGUST 3 @ 10 A.M.
ASSISTING MINISTER



SUNDAY AUGUST 3 @ 10 A.M.
USHER

ALTAR GUILD FOR AUGUST
SONI SCHNITZER

THIS WEEK 8/3 - 8/9

TODAY:

10 A.M. WORSHIP

7 P.M. TRY AGAIN (AA)

MONDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS WALKING GROUP

6 P.M. KNITTING GROUP

6:45 P.M. ZUMBA

7:30 P.M. AL-ANON

TUESDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA

12 P.M. TAI-CHI

6 P.M. ROCK VOICES

6:30 P.M. SA BUFFALO

WEDNESDAY:

1 P.M. ARTHRITIS EXERCISE GROUP

THURSDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA

12 P.M. NA

5 P.M. ZUMBA

7 P.M. NA

FRIDAY:

10 A.M. ENJOY LIFE (NA)

7:30 P.M. GARDENVILLE GROUP (AA)

SATURDAY:

9 A.M. ZUMBA

5 P.M. WORSHIP

OFFICE CLOSED

THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED FRIDAY AUGUST 1ST

THURSDAY AUGUST 7TH

FRIDAY AUGUST 8TH

WEST SENECA BAND CONCERT

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24TH @ 12PM

THE WEST SENECA BAND WILL BE PUTTING ON A CONCERT FOR THE
COMMUNITY HERE AT ST. JOHN'S.
THE CONCERT WILL BE HELD ON THE LAWN.
BRING A BLANKET OR LAWN CHAIR

3RD ANNUAL HARVEST HOUSE BABY SHOWER

AUGUST 10TH- SEPTEMBER 14TH

ST. JOHN'S WILL AGAIN FOR THE 3RD YEAR BE PARTICIPATING IN THE
ANNUAL HARVEST HOUSE BABY SHOWER.

IN 2024, HARVEST HOUSE WAS HELPING 600 CHILDREN PER MONTH.
THIS YEAR, THAT NUMBERS HAS SWELLED TO ALMOST 800
CHILDREN A MONTH.

FEDERAL POVERTY INCOMES WILL INCREASE BY JUST 5% IN 2025. BASIC
BABY SUPPLIES ARE EXPECTED TO INCREASE BY 24% OR MORE. THIS
WILL FORCE FAMILIES TO DECIDE BETWEEN PAYING RENT, UTILITY BILLS
OR CARING FOR THEIR CHILDREN.
YOUR HELP IS CRITICAL!!

BRAND NEW ITEMS NEEDED MOST:

DIAPERS (SIZES 2-5) SOCKS FOR CHILDREN AGE 3+
CLOTHING (NEWBORN TO 5T) BOTTLES AND FEEDING SUPPLIES
BABY HYGIENE PRODUCTS (WIPES, CREAMS, ETC...)

PRAYERS NEEDED

IT IS WITH HEAVY HEARTS THAT WE INFORM YOU OF THE PASSING OF
OUR BELOVED MEMBER, NANCY WRIGHT,
WHO DEPARTED THIS LIFE YESTERDAY,

NANCY WAS A CHERISHED PART OF OUR CONGREGATION AND
COMMUNITY. HER WARMTH, KINDNESS, AND UNWAVERING SUPPORT
TOUCHED THE LIVES OF MANY. WE WILL REMEMBER HER FOR HER
CONTRIBUTIONS TO OUR CHURCH AND THE LOVE
SHE SHARED WITH ALL.

PLEASE KEEP NANCY'S FAMILY IN YOUR THOUGHTS AND PRAYERS
DURING THIS DIFFICULT TIME.

BURRITO PROJECT

THIS PAST TUESDAY, THE BURRITO PROJECT ONCE AGAIN TOOK US DOWNTOWN TO PROVIDE FOR OUR NEIGHBORS ON THE STREETS. THIS TIME WAS A BIT DIFFERENT FROM OTHERS. DESPITE PREPARING OVER 100 MEALS, WE WERE FORCED TO TURN PEOPLE AWAY WITH NO FOOD.

THIS WAS VERY SAD FOR US SINCE WE TRY VERY HARD TO HAVE ENOUGH AND MAYBE A LITTLE EXTRA TO GIVE MORE TO THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE MORE. IN ADDITION, OUR PERSONAL HYGIENE SUPPLIES ARE NOW VERY LOW. WE ARE SCHEDULED TO GO OUT AGAIN ON THE LAST TUESDAY OF SEPTEMBER. THAT IS ONLY TWO MONTHS AWAY.

THERE IS A LOT FOR US TO DO IN ORDER TO BE READY.

THANK YOU, TO THE DEDICATED PEOPLE WHO CONTRIBUTED THEIR TIME TO MAKE THIS HAPPEN. A BIG THANKS AS WELL, TO THOSE WHO PROVIDED PERSONAL CARE ITEMS FOR THE PROJECT. THIS IS AN UNDERTAKING THAT REQUIRES A LOT OF PEOPLE. WE ARE BLESSED TO HAVE YOU. WE ARE ALSO GRATEFUL FOR THE FINANCIAL SUPPORT PROVIDED BY THRIVENT FINANCIAL. EVERYONE INVOLVED SHOULD GIVE THEMSELVES A PAT ON THE BACK, AND THANK GOD THAT WE ARE ABLE TO DO IT.

WEST SENECA COMMUNITY OF CHURCHES CROP WALK AND CHICKEN DINNER

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24TH AT QUEEN OF HEAVEN RC 4220 SENECA ST, WS

WEIDNER'S CHICKEN DINNER \$15.00 - 12:30PM-3:30PM

WALK - 1:00PM-3:00PM

CHILDREN SUMMER GAMES WILL BE AVAILABLE!

PROCEEDS FOR CROP,
COMMUNITIES RESPOND TO OVERCOME POVERTY.