

March 11, 2018 St. John's The Parish Post



9am & 11am Traditional Worship Services

Confession and Forgiveness ELW p. 94

Hymn ELW # 335

Kyrie ELW p.138

Prayer

Bible Readings

Numbers 21:4-9 Bible, p. 122

Psalms 107:1-3,17-22 ELW#107

Ephesians 2:1-10 Bible, p. 949

John 3:14-21 Bible, p. 864

Message

Hymn ELW # 779

Offering ELW # 272

Communion ELW p.144

Hymn ELW # 880

Dismissal

OUR CHURCH NEIGHBORHOOD, By Pastor Erik Young

I would like you to take the following quiz:

- What is the name of our church's neighborhood?
- Name three businesses in the above-named neighborhood.
- What is an issue of late with the said businesses?
- How many businesses have been affected by it in recent weeks?
- When and where was a neighborhood fundraiser recently held?
- What was the purpose of the fundraiser?

I know that Federal Hill might come to mind, but our neighborhood goes by a different name: Independence Hill. Read a bit about it on their [Facebook Page \(@IndependenceHillErie\)](#). Read the [news article](#) from Monday (2/26/18) morning's paper that will answer the

rest of the quiz questions (most of which I could not answer with certainty before reading that article).

The issue for me comes back to one of my foci for this year: "The Church needs to leave the building." According to the Jefferson Education Society, St. John's is an anchor institution in this neighborhood. The fact that we know very little about what is going on in our neighborhood, or even what our neighborhood is called, is an indictment against us and is something that needs rectified. I personally feel very badly about the fact that I have not taken the time to leave the office to go up and down the street getting to know our neighbors and their businesses.

I plan on making this change and making it soon. As a matter of fact, I will be attending the Independence Hill Community Meeting the first Monday night in March. We as a community of faith will only be as effective as we are involved in the lives of those around us. When looking for direction from Jesus regarding our mission and ministry, one of my favorite Bible passages to reference is when he sends out his disciples into the community:

"Whenever you enter a town and its people welcome you, eat what is set before you; cure the sick who are there, and say to them, 'The kingdom of God is at hand.'" (Luke 10:8-9)

Note that the first thing you do is get to know the people and their culture. Secondly, make their concerns your concerns. And finally, once you have done the first two things well, tell them about the love of God.

We all know that we have work to do as a community of faith. I think the Holy Spirit has just shown us all a good place to start.

† ST JOHN'S VISION STATEMENT †

Loved by God, alive in Christ Jesus, and guided by the Holy Spirit, St. John's unconditionally serves God's people and shares Christian love.



Marjorie E. Urch Altsman

Marjorie E. Urch Altsman, passed away Friday, March 2, 2018 at Fairview Manor. She was born in Erie, on April 14, 1938, the daughter of the late Merritt L. and Helen E. Traut Urch.

Marge graduated from Academy High School. She worked for Erie Insurance as a Benefits Administrator for over 18 years retiring in 2004. Marge was a member here at St. John's and served on the Dufford Terrace Board for over 20 years.

In addition to her parents, she was preceded in death by her husband, Thomas C. Altsman Sr., her sister Opal Shaffer; and her brother Melvin Cook.

Survivors include her two sons, Thomas C. Altsman Jr. and his wife Lisa, and Gregory A. Altsman and his wife Laurie; her sister Mary Lou Janoski, all of Erie; her six grandchildren, Ryan Altsman and his wife Jamie, Kyle Altsman, Kelcey

Dituro and her husband Matthew, Katelyn Altsman, Victoria Altsman, and Lindsay Santone; three great-grandchildren, Payson, Paige, and Sagan; and many nieces and nephews.

Russell C. Schmidt & Son Funeral Home, was in charge of Marge's funeral arrangements. Her funeral service was held at St. John's Lutheran Church on Wednesday, March 7, 2018. Burial followed in Laurel Hill Cemetery. Memorial contributions can be made to the **American Cancer Society** - 2115 W. 38th St., Erie, PA 16508.



When you or a loved one are admitted to a Local Hospital ...

Due to a new computer system at St. Vincent Hospital, they are unable to access church codes. This means that St. Vincent Hospital will be unable to look for patients by church name. It is important to us that we be able to visit and keep in contact with those in the hospital. We ask that you please contact the church office (456-7596) if you or a loved one is admitted. Thank you.

Lenten Soup Supper and Study

You are invited to join us each Wednesday through the Lenten season for our Soup Supper and Worship. Soup Supper is at 6:30 pm in the Parish Center/Gym and Worship will be at 7 pm in the Sanctuary.

Donations Needed

The Youth and Family Committee is looking for help with purchasing candy/small prizes and to stuff Easter eggs for our upcoming Easter Fair and Egg Hunt. This community outreach event will take place on Saturday, March 24th from 9:30-10:30 am. The egg hunt begins promptly at 10:30 am. Empty plastic Easter eggs can be found in the church Narthex. Each bag contains 25 plastic eggs for you to fill. We kindly ask that you stuff the eggs with only pre-packed treats, due to allergy concerns.

Please return all eggs to the church office by Sunday, March 18th. Thank you in advance for your help and donations! 😊



Spring Ruth Guild Rummage Sale

The women of the Ruth Guild have scheduled their Spring Rummage Sale! Set up will be on **Sunday, April 15**. The Sale is open to the shopping public on **Monday, April 16** and the popular "Bag Day" is held on **Tuesday, April 17**. Your donations of **clean and gently-used** household items, furniture, linens, toys, scarves, costume jewelry, pet items, games, baby items, dishes, pans, pots, shoes, books, CDs, DVDs, and clothing are greatly appreciated. Sorry, TVs cannot be accepted!

Donations can be dropped off on the Gym stage, behind the curtains, beginning Monday, March 19th! Your donations help the Ruth Guild to continue to support many ministry opportunities throughout the year ahead!!

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS FOR NEXT SUNDAY, March 18 2018

March 18, 2018

9 AM Worship

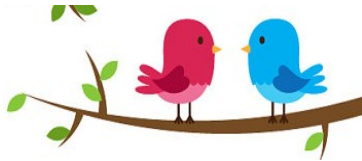
Greeter	Joan Wheeler
Usher, Acolyte and Communion Assistants	Volunteers
Worship Leader and Lector	Ron Simonetti
Cantor	Emma Carlson



March 18 2018

11 AM Worship

Greeters	The Olsen Family
Communion Assistants	Kellie Blatt
Ushers	Sue Carlson and Isaac Richards
Acolytes	Becky Carlson
Lector	Max Alwens, Jr.
Worship Leader	Butch Karnes
Flowers	Marj Quinn
Counters	Barbara Kulisek, Judy Martin, and Joel Martin
AV	DustiRose Richards
Altar Guild	Stephanie Sorge



THIS WEEK AT ST. JOHN'S March 11, 2018 thru March 18, 2018

SUNDAY	3/11/2018	9:00 AM	Traditional Worship with Communion — Sanctuary
		11:00 AM	Contemporary Worship with Communion — Sanctuary
		12:30 PM	Holy Communion Class—Luther Memorial
WEDNESDAY	3/14/2018	10:30 AM	Bible Study—Assembly Room
		6:30 PM	Soup Supper —Parish Center
		7:00 PM	Worship—Sanctuary
THURSDAY	3/15/2018	11:30 AM	Mary Martha Circle Meeting—Assembly Room
		6:15 PM	Bell Choir Practice — Sanctuary
		7:15 PM	Chancel Choir Practice — Sanctuary
SATURDAY	3/17/2018	5:30 PM	Worship with Communion—Sanctuary
SUNDAY	3/18/2018	9:00 AM	Traditional Worship with Communion — Sanctuary
		11:00 AM	Traditional Worship with Communion — Sanctuary
		6:00 PM	Youth Group

Choir News

Make your Lenten and Easter preparation more meaningful by singing and ringing for God at St. John's. Choirs rehearse on Thursdays. The Bell Choir rehearses at 6:15 pm and the Chancel Choir rehearses at 7:15 pm. New members are welcome in both choirs. Choirs will sing and ring at the 9:00 am traditional service. If you would like to try it out for a short time, please join us as we prepare for Lenten and Easter music.

Holy Week Garden

As we celebrate Holy Week we remember loved ones and friends by decorating our Sanctuary with beautiful palms and lilies. You are invited to contribute in honor, memory, or in celebration of individuals you know and love. After Easter Sunday, the remaining plants are delivered to church members and friends that are homebound, hospitalized, or living in assisted living facilities, so they too can enjoy their beauty, remembering the Good News of Holy Week.

GIVEN BY _____ PHONE _____
 IN HONOR / MEMORY OF _____

Potted Palms for Passion Sunday \$15 ea. X _____ = \$ _____
 Easter Lilies \$10 ea. X _____ = \$ _____
 Other gift or dedication amount \$ _____
 Total Amount Enclosed Cash Check # _____ \$ _____

Please place this order form in an envelope marked "**Holy Week Garden**" with your check or cash and return it to the church office before noon on **Thursday, March 15**. Your order may also be placed in the offering plate. Please print clearly.

- I would like to help with the ministry of delivering flowers!*
- More dedications on other side of sheet* ⇨

PRAYING FOR THOSE WE LOVE AND CARE ABOUT AND OUR LEADERS...



Kevin Harper	Barbara Huff	Matthew Zill— recovering nicely from open heart surgery
Olive Pifer—broken right wrist	Allyson Minor	Amanda Heubel
Rev. Mann	Tom & Barb Paszkowski	Doris Seachrist (at home)
Nancy Varner	Norm Christie	Lynn Schrimper
Peter Barthelmes	Donald Donahue	Ronald Sommers
Ed Heubel	Dwain Fugate	Elaine Sturtevant
Don Carlson	Cindy Weber	Patty Myers
Bud Bresee	Paul Quinn	Carrie Fiske
Judy Sweeney	Angie Suprynowicz	Matthew Goodwin—deployed
Alex and family	Char Burkholder	Bishop Elizabeth
John Tyler—deployed	Family and friends of Marge	Mayor Joe Schember
Bishop Ralph	Altsman	

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK — March 12 thru March 18

Monday, March 12 ~ Hebrews 3:1-6	Tuesday, March 13 ~ 1 Corinthians 10:6-13
Wednesday, March 14 ~ John 8:12-20	Thursday, March 15 ~ Hebrews 4:1-13
Friday, March 16 ~ Hebrews 4:14-5:4	Saturday, March 17 ~ John 12:1-11
Sunday, March 18 ~ Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm 51:1-12; Hebrews 5:5-10 and John 12:20-33	