

Tree of Life Lutheran Church

united in worship, sharing Jesus
and serving all people

Leaves of Life Newsletter February 2023

Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church
825 Forest Avenue
Jamestown, NY 14701

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



MAILING
LABEL



Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church
825 Forest Ave, Jamestown NY 14701
(716) 488-4235 - FAX: (716) 488-2336

Worship Services each Sunday at 9 am

Contact info:

Office hours: 9 am-1 pm—Monday - Friday

Timothy J. Hoyer, Pastor

to set up appointment: Call church (716)488-4235
for pastoral emergency: (716) 490-5731 (call or text)

TREE OF LIFE emails:

pastorthoyer@gmail.com – Pastor Timothy Hoyer
admin@toljamestown.com – Darcy Whitney
finance@toljamestown.com – Jan Coleson

Our website:
www.toljamestown.com

Tree of Life is on Facebook –
search “@TOLChurchJTN”



Each month we will feature a recipe from either the Holy Trinity Cookbook, Give Us This Day, or the Immanuel Cookbook. Let me know if you have a favorite that you would like to see!

Strawberry Pretzel Dessert

Wendy Reichard

Crust:

2 1/4 cups crushed pretzels, 3 tbsp. sugar
3/4 cup softened/melted butter

Middle:

8 ounces cream cheese, 3/4 cup sugar
12 oz. Cool Whip whipped topping

Top:

2 3 oz. packages (6 ounces total) strawberry Jello
2 cups boiling water, 2 10 oz. packages frozen Strawberries; slightly thawed

Crust:

Crush pretzels with rolling pin, food processor, or whatever method. Mix in sugar and softened butter. Spread onto bottom of 9 by 13-inch baking pan; press down and spread evenly with spoon. Bake in 400-degree oven until just lightly browned, 6-10 minutes. Set aside to cool; can be refrigerated until next step once cool enough to put in refrigerator.

Middle:

Thoroughly mix cream cheese and 3/4 cup sugar. Fold in whipped topping and spread over completely cooled pretzel crust. Refrigerate until ready to add top.

Top:

Dissolve strawberry gelatin in 2 cups boiling water; still until gelatin is dissolved. When cool, add slightly thawed strawberries and leave to thicken/set slightly. Pour over cream cheese layer. Refrigerate until firm (3-4 hrs) before cutting into squares for serving.



We celebrate with you!!

2/8 George Oste
2/12 Marlene Hanson
2/16 Jim Buffone
2/21 Jim Erickson
2/22 Robert Shaul

Memorials

Memorial Fund:

In Memory of Eleanor Ahlstrom – Bill & Susan Ahlstrom;
Cheryl & John Erickson; Leona Seastrum.

In loving memory of my Godmother, Eleanor Ahlstrom: - CJ
Ross.

GOOD NEWS FROM PASTOR

“Hey, hey, we have a little time left. So don’t panic.”

A little time left? It’s the beginning of February. Lent starts in less than three weeks! Ash Wednesday is February eighteenth! What do you mean, don’t panic?

Lent?! Jesus just started his ministry. How can it be Lent? Jesus is still preaching his first sermon and already others plot to kill him? What did he say to turn people against him? Why did people want him dead?

Lent is coming. We will be thinking more about the death and rising of Jesus, that he did that for us, that he did it to take away our deaths, and to take away the power that makes us feel bad when we do things or forget to do things we promised to do. Always that power is around us, always pushing us around to point out how we failed, that we aren’t as good as others, that we should be seen as not very important.

Lent is a time when, in the old tradition, we were to give something up. We can give up our insulting remarks, we can give up looking down our nose at others, we can give up making opinions about others based on their clothes or how they smell or the color of their skin. We can give up how we point out what is wrong and replace it with compliments, encouragement, and forgiveness. We can give up making people earn our kindness and help and simply give them our kindness and help. That is what the death and rising of Jesus did for us, and we are set free to live the same way.

Lent has forty days (not counting Sundays). Forty days means enough time, a long time, to do what is needed. We have forty days to journey to the place outside of Jerusalem where Jesus was crucified. We have forty days to recognize that Jesus’ death on a cross is a real event, it really happened, and that it is the event that God considers to be the most important event ever. That event becomes the



reason and the way God relates to us. Things happen in our lives that change how we do things. If we slip and fall in a certain place, we are very careful every time we walk over that same place. As Jesus died for us, God is very careful to relate to us using the death of Jesus.

To use the death and rising of Jesus to relate to us means God gives us eternal life, just as he raised Jesus from the dead. It means God always forgives us as his way of honoring what Jesus did for us. God will always honor Jesus dying for us. God will act in no other way. That is what God has promised us by raising Jesus from the dead.

We too get to live in ways that always honor what Jesus has done for us. His death for us is the reason we do things, instead of using other reasons for why we do things—such as wanting to be right, such as making a profit, such as right and wrong, or such as a political ideology.

Jesus is the most important event in our lives. Lent helps us to remember that.

Peace,
Pastor Hoyer

Council Corner for February 2023

Dear Tree of Life Members,

Here we are already into the second month of 2023! Time passes quickly as we all know so it is time to get busy for our church year.

Our new kitchen lights came in and Roberto has installed them. Take a walk to the kitchen and see how nice and bright they are. I am sure more will be put up in the near future.

Chris Radack ordered the new Food Pantry sign, and it is now up in the front lawn of our church. Great job Chris!



Your Church Council

President:	Sandy Stewart
Vice-President:	Debra Radack
Treasurer:	Dorie Deyo
Secretary:	Debbie Swan

Council Members:

Dave Gibson
Dan Gustafson
Chris Radack
Debra Radack
Sandy Stewart
Debbie Swan
Darcy Whitney

**Church Council will meet on Monday,
February 13 at 6:30 pm. ☺**



TOL email Prayer Chain....
Prayer requests can be made through Darcy at the church office (716) 488-4236; to Darcy's office email at admin@toljamestown.com, or to Darcy's personal email at whitneyr49@yahoo.com. If you would like to be a part of this important mission, please send your email address to Darcy.

The deadline for the March issue of *Leaves of Life* Newsletter is Sunday, February 19th. Please email any news to admin@toljamestown.com by that date. Thank you!

If you would like to be a part of the newsletter assembly team, please call Darcy at 488-4235. Thanks so much!



In an effort to cut down on costs in 2023, we are trying to cut back on postage. Therefore, those of you who attend worship regularly on Sundays will find your newsletter on the table in the Narthex. A few of you have said you would like yours emailed to you, so we will do that. If

anyone else would like theirs emailed, please let me know by calling the church at 716-488-4235 or emailing me at admin@toljamestown.com. We will mail the others.

Thank you for your understanding 😊

Darcy Whitney
Church Secretary

Last month I told you we would have a new project for February. We are ready to go with it. UCAN, formerly Union Rescue Mission, now is housing up to 30 men at the First Street building. They find themselves in need of additional food to be able to feed these men. We will have a large container in the Narthex to hold donations that our congregation donates for UCAN. All of us at one time or another had to make food go a long way with recipes that called for smaller pieces of meat along with added veggies, etc. Think of those dishes that went a long way and perhaps donate items of food that were used for them. I am sure the cooks at UCAN will make some great casseroles, stews, soups, etc. Other ideas are pasta, sauces, veggies, fruits.

Another idea would be to purchase a gift card with which they could buy fresh meats and salad ingredients. Your participation will be greatly appreciated. See the separate article in this newsletter.

Membership. Yes, membership is so very important to the life our church. We all must seek to find those friends, relatives, and neighbors who do not attend a church and see if they would like to attend with us one Sunday. Pastor Hoyer is always there to welcome and speak with guests. His sermons are enlightening, and we always leave feeling good. Kim, our pianist, sees to it that she has a wonderful song to play prior to our leaving. What a good feeling she adds!

Regarding finances, you see the financial reports and know we need to keep up with our pledges the best we can. Thank you to those who continue to give.

It has been a pleasure to serve as Council President this year and work with some super folks!

Debra Radack, Vice President; Debbie Swan, Secretary; Dorie Deyo, Treasurer; Dan Gustafson and Dave Gibson, Property men; Chris Radack Personnel Chairman and of course Pastor Hoyer. My thanks to all of them for their help and input!

In Christ's love,

Sandy Stewart, Council President



February

Worship Assistants

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

Feb. 5: Dorie Deyo
19: Sandy Stewart

LECTORS

Feb. 5: Judy DuBois
12: Sandy Stewart
19: Marlene Hanson
26: Janet Thom

GREETERS

Feb. 5: Sandy Stewart
12: Hal & Marlene Hanson
19: Sylvia Braley
26: Dorie Deyo

ALTAR CARE

February – Darcy Whitney



February is Love Month, and we are going to share our love with UCAN Mission!

All month long we will be collecting items for UCAN Mission on 1st Street. There is a box in the narthex for you to put your donations in. Monetary donations will also be accepted.

Food:



- Pastas
- Cream of Chicken soup
- Cream of Mushroom soup
- Cereals
- Milk
- Fresh meat - i.e. stew meat, ground beef, or any pieces that they will make up to feed many.
- Canned chicken

Cleaning Supplies:

- Laundry detergent (any kind)
- Dryer sheets
- Bleach
- Swiffer
- Swiffer pads wet and dry
- Large multi-purpose liquid cleaner (Lysol or other)
- Lysol spray cleaner
- Garbage bags (tall kitchen or large trash bags)

UCAN is so needed in our community. Please help them out if you can 😊

February

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Church Office Hours 9 am – 1 pm Monday - Friday			1 10-2 Food Cupboard 1:30 Esther Circle – church library	2 8:30 TOPS	3 10-2 Food Cupboard	4
5 Epiphany 5 9:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion – Coffee Hour to follow	6 9:00 Labor of Love 10:30 Bible Study	7	8 10-2 Food Cupboard	9 8:30 TOPS	10 10-2 Food Cupboard	11
12 Epiphany 6 9:00 Worship	13 9:00 Labor of Love 6:30 Church Council	14 	15 10-2 Food Cupboard	16 8:30 TOPS	17 10-2 Food Cupboard	18
19 Transfiguration of Our Lord 9:00 Worship w/ Holy Communion Newsletter Deadline	20 9:00 Labor of Love 10:30 Bible Study 	21	22 10-2 Food Cupboard 12:00 Ash Wednesday service at First Lutheran – lunch to follow 	23 8:30 TOPS	24 10-2 Food Cupboard	25
26 Lent 1 9:00 Worship	27 9:00 Labor of Love	28				

SEVEN MEALS

In a time of family crisis—a death, an accident, sickness—neighbors would bring a cooked meal to the family because there wasn't time to cook a meal. At Tree of Life, we are each other's neighbors. So, we will help provide a meal or up to seven meals when one of us has a family crisis. If you have a crisis, call the church office (716-488-4235) and tell the secretary you need a meal. We have several places to

choose from, a few meals the family could choose from. The secretary will call to order a meal to go, and either the family would pick it up, or a volunteer would pick it up and deliver it to the family.

This mission will be paid for through special offerings from the congregation. There is a box in the back of the church labeled Seven Meals where we could put a donation in at any time to fund this.



MEAL CHOICES

Pizza

Little Caesar's
Dominos
Lenas
Taste-a-Pizza

Olive Garden

Chicken Alfredo \$19.99
Lasagna Classico \$17.99
Spaghetti with meat balls \$16.78
Cheese Ravioli \$16.79
6 oz sirloin \$19.29
Eggplant Parmigiana \$16.77

Serve 4-6

Lasagna Family Bundle (feeds 4-6)
\$63.99
Lasagna Classico \$51.99
Chicken Alfredo \$64.99
Spaghetti with meat sauce \$46.99

Davidsons Family Restaurant

Fish Fry \$15.99
Finger Dinner \$13.99 (fries and chicken fingers)
Broiled Fish \$15.99
Bucket of chicken 8 pieces \$27.99
Bucket of Chicken 12 pieces \$33.99
T steak \$14.99

Applebees

Grilled Chicken Breast \$15.49 w/garlic
mashed potatoes and broccoli
Chicken Tenders Platter \$14.99 w/fries
Three cheese Panne \$15.49
Clubhouse Grilled Sandwich \$13.49
w/fries

Wegmans

Turkey and provolone med. Sub \$7.99
Chicken salad sandwich \$10.00
Ham and swiss med sub \$7.99

Tim Horton's

Tuna salad sandwich \$5.37
Grilled chicken panini \$5.19
Turkey bacon club \$6.85