

Crossroads Connections



*At Crossroads Lutheran Church
We live God's mission:
Caring for others near and far,
Because Christ cares for us.*

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Pastor*

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A note from Vicar Adam

Each year before the Oscars award ceremony my wife and some of our friends attempt to watch as many of the nominated films as we can. It makes watching the Oscars an event that we feel a part of and it also allows us to keep up to date on some of the most interesting and thought-provoking films each year. This year, I saw many of the nominated films, and one of the themes that continued to pop up was the idea of community. In many of these movies the idea of relying on a family or group of friends was front and center. And some focused on those hurtful effects of not having a group to rely on.

The movie that stood out to me in a very personal way this year was *Spider-Man: Into the Spider-Verse*. Now before you dismiss this as just an animated kid's movie (which it is), let me explain a little of why I loved it so much. First, I've been a fan of super-heroes for a very long time, although many super-hero movies are not very good. Second, the music and animation were really fun in this movie. But most of all, among its important themes, including taking risks, this movie focused on how important it is to have people in our lives who understand us on a deeper level. It is important to know that there are people in our lives who really understand the joys and sorrows that we go through each day. Our family and friends make a real difference.

As Christians we believe that God knows what it is to be human, because God became a human in the person of Jesus. As we enter into Lent, with our focus on preparing ourselves for the death and resurrection of Christ, we often take a look at the ways we have fallen short of what God hopes for our lives. But know that Lent is not just about how we have sinned, or missed the mark. Lent is also recognizing the one who knows our pain, our hurts, and our failings, and has set us free through his death and resurrection. Jesus knows our deepest hurts. God knows our pain, because Jesus has been there.

So first in Lent, remember that God understands whatever you are going through, and continues to love you. Second, as we remember that we are dust and to dust we will return, take a moment to look up from your prayers in worship and look around at all the other people of dust who walk with you. In our gathered community, we share each other's joys and pains. As the Apostle Paul reminds us in 1 Corinthians 12:26: "If one member suffers, all suffer together with it; if one member is honored, all rejoice together with it."

As we walk through Lent together, keep an eye out for those around you who you can rely on. Keep an eye out for those who can rely on you. Share each other's burdens. Rejoice with each other's joy. And know that in Lent we all are preparing and remembering to continually rely on God in Christ who understands us so very deeply.

Thanks God, for knowing me, and walking with me.
Amen.

Vicar Adam Arends

2019 Crossroads Church Council

President: Mary Mindel
Vice President: Ed Weiss
Secretary: Arlene Eberhard
Treasurer: Dawn Goran
Kelley Omel
Martin Troutman
Financial Secretary: Neal Nesselbeck

Tiger's Den Food Pantry

THANK YOU for helping to supply the Tiger's Den Food Pantry. For the month of March, we are asking for donations of hot chocolate and soup (other than chicken noodle or tomato). You may continue to place your food donations in the food barrel.

-Carolyn Catalano

Dear members of Crossroads Church,
 It wasn't until our involvement with St. Paul's Tiger's Den Food Pantry that we fully realized how generous people are in the town of Amherst. Since the pantry began operating, we've been in awe of the level of caring shown by this community, and by you. Your donations have helped local needy families keep food on their tables. We're not exaggerating when we say that without you, we couldn't operate. When the pantry opened in May 2017, 12 families came through our door. Now it serves 54 families a month. Besides food, Tiger's Den offers clothing, school supplies, personal care items, paper products, and books. So, thank you from the bottom of our hearts, to all of you who've picked up that extra item while grocery shopping. We appreciate your kindness and couldn't do it without you!

Sincerely,
 Carolyn Catalano, Co-Manager of Tiger's Den
 Mike Belle-Isle, Assistant Superintendent for Student and Staff Services Amherst Central School District

March Birthday Lunch

The March Birthday Luncheon will be held on Tuesday, March 19th at Sean Patricks on 3480 Millitary Hwy, Getzville 14068 at 12:00pm. Everyone is welcome whether it's your birthday or not. Call the church office for reservations.

****If you are not able to make it to church on a weekend or just want to listen to the sermon again, go to CrossroadsLutheranChurch.org and click on the "Sermon Library" link.***

****Would you be interested in doing the weekly updates to CrossroadsLutheranChurch.org? Contact Frank Duquette at FDUQ@aol.com***

March Birthdays

1 Joseph Cassata Howard Hutton Gail Lawler	15 Barbara Bedient Max Koch
2 Melissa Hake Barbara Troutman Ella Swatsworth	16 James Keptner Devin Klose
6 Lara Reece	17 John Svec
9 Sara Kobus	19 Barbara Kaye
10 Martin Troutman	20 Gerald House
11 Jean Forster Mary Lou Herschlag Richard Palmer III Leslie Wolf	22 James Luce
13 Jenna Paul	23 Charleigh Rondeau Erin Swatsworth
	25 Stephanie Szeluga
	29 Connor Barrand Shayna Klose

A Note from the Youth Director!



MARCH YOUTH NEWS

This spring, my husband Adam will be graduating from seminary and will be receiving his first call to ordained ministry. In a few weeks we'll know more about where that call might be, but either way, I will be moving on from my position here at Crossroads and St. Paul's this June. It is time for our family to be at church together. I know church leadership at St. Paul's and Crossroads are discussing who will replace me and I am confident that whoever is hired will be exactly who God needs to work with our youth at this time. There will be more and more details unfolding throughout the spring but know that I have loved every minute of my ministry here at Crossroads and St. Paul's. This is a unique, welcoming, adventurous, committed community of faith that Adam, Anna, Wes and I have been blessed to be a part of.

YOUTH NIGHTS: Saturday, March 2nd - 6th-12th graders are invited for these fun, impactful nights together at Crossroads Lutheran Church. Our March theme is "We Need to Fail!". Families and youth are invited to worship at 5pm. Then youth stay to eat dinner together before our games and activities begin at 6pm and go until 9pm. Save the dates for Mar 2nd and April 13th as our next upcoming youth nights.

SPAGHETTI DINNER & BASKET RAFFLE: March 30th! – Join us for our annual youth fundraiser for all Youth at Crossroads and St. Paul's. The event will be held at St. Paul's! We serve the food and work alongside our awesome kitchen crew to put on a delicious dinner which raises fund for LCLC camperships and the National Youth Gathering. YOUTH – we need you to serve! PARENTS – we'll need some kitchen/set up helpers. EVERYONE – We'll need donations of baskets and desserts and diners! THANK YOU =)

ORGANIC YOUTH VOLLEYBALL MARATHON – April 5-6. \$25. Organic Youth invites us to their Annual Volleyball Marathon! We begin by gathering at 8pm at St. John's West Seneca and then go over to Buffalo Niagara Court Center for the tourney! Eat dinner before you come and register at organic-youth.org.

THE HATE YOU GIVE - MOVIE & DISCUSSION: Due to many scheduling conflicts and leadership illness we actually had to cancel our initial viewing in February. We are working to find a new date so be on the look out!

Peace,
~Kristen Arends (KK)
716-481-8728
kristen.arends@gmail.com

Snacks + Gospel + Life + Prayer + Reflection + Silly games = Youth Ministry at St. Paul's!

Sat. Mar 2nd - Youth Night at Crossroads 6-9pm
Sat. Mar 30th - Spaghetti Dinner at St. Paul's 4-8pm
Sat. April 13th - Youth Night at Crossroads 6-9pm
Sat. May 11th - Youth Night at Crossroads 6-9pm
Sat. June 1st - Youth Night at Crossroads 6-9pm

Movie Club



Everyone (from St. Paul's and Crossroads and anywhere else) is welcome to join us for some special gatherings in Lent: Vicar Adam will be leading a Movie Club event on Saturday, March 16th at 12:30pm. We will be watching and discussing the film *Christopher Robin*. We'll be providing lunch at 12:30pm and starting the movie at 1pm. After the movie, we will be having a good discussion about living faithfully in the season of Lent. Pastor Adam will be leading a Book Club in April. Watch the announcements and newsletters for his book choice and dates for discussion.

Youth Fundraiser



**St. Paul's and Crossroads Youth Groups
invite you to the
Annual Spaghetti Dinner & Basket Raffle
Saturday, March 30th
4-7pm**

Dinner includes unlimited salad, breadsticks, dessert and pasta & meatballs with homemade sauce!!! Free Will Offering to benefit the next National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN, June 2021 & Camperships to Lake Chautauqua Lutheran Center
We do need some delicious donated desserts and beautiful baskets for the raffle.
If you can help us out, please contact Katie at either Crossroads (839-1314) or St. Paul's (835-0407)

2019 Youth Volleyball Marathon

April 5-6
8:00pm to 7:00am

First we will gather at St. John's in West Seneca to pack meals for the hungry in WNY. Then we will all head to the Buffalo Niagara Court Center to have an all night volleyball tournament, and see which youth group ends up the winner!

We will have pizza and snacks at 2:00am. Please eat dinner before you come! There are additional snacks available for purchase at the Buffalo Niagara Court Center if needed.

The address of St. John's Lutheran Church in West Seneca is:

3512 Clinton St, West Seneca, NY 14224

The address of the Buffalo Niagara Court Center is:

425 Meyer Rd, West Seneca, NY 14224

Cost: \$25

Lutheran Charities Fundraiser

Join Crossroads, St. Paul's and other WNY Lutheran Churches as we raise funds for Lutheran Charities of WNY on Sunday March 31st from 11:00am-3:00pm at The Tavern at Windsor Park. A portion of your check and 100% of your tips will be donated!



Meat Raffle

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
Saturday March 9th at 1pm
\$3.00 Admission includes food, drinks and snacks.
Doors Open at 12!
Basket Raffles and 50/50 drawing.

Prince of Peace Lutheran Church
2311 George Urban Blvd
Depew 14043



We are starting a fellowship ministry in conjunction with Saturday Service. Beginning Saturday March 9th, we will be providing a simple soup and crackers meal after 5pm Worship Service. It will continue every 2nd Wednesday of each month. Plan on finishing those conversations that you couldn't get in before service started!

Who is invited?

EVERYONE is invited! Just make sure to notify Katie in the office so we know how many to plan for. Soup preparation will be provided. Volunteers will be asked to help clean and lock up.

Where is it held?

In Church lounge

What will be served?

We will be offering a different soup each month starting with vegetable soup and then we will decide where to go from there based upon popular opinion. A gluten free soup will be offered. Coffee and tea will also be provided.

Announcements

~ Ash Wednesday Service will be held on Wednesday March 6th at 12pm at Crossroads and 7pm at St. Paul's.

~ Crossroads Annual Meeting will be held on Sunday, March 10th after service.

~ St. Paul's will be hosting Lunch and Litany during each Wednesday in Lent starting March 13th from 12:00pm -12:30pm. We ask you to bring a bagged lunch to enjoy and prayers start at 12:20pm.

Worship Schedule for Lent

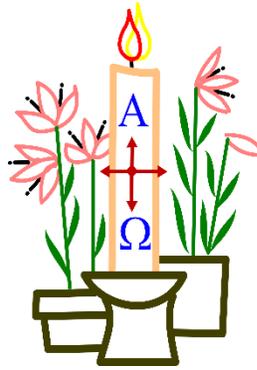
March 6th – Ash Wednesday
Crossroads at 12pm
St. Paul's at 7pm

April 18th – Maundy Thursday
Crossroads at 6:30pm with Potluck following

April 19th – Good Friday
Crossroads Community Service at 2pm
St. Paul's Worship at 7pm

April 20th – Easter Vigil – Crossroads at 5pm

April 21st – Easter
Crossroads – 10:15am
St. Paul's – 6am Easter Sunrise Worship
8:30am and 10am – Traditional Worship



Easter Plants

Help us make Crossroads bright and beautiful to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus!

Orders need to be received by April 7th.

Please pay when submitting order.

- Lilies - \$10 each
- Daffodils - \$10 each
- Tulips - \$10 each
- Hyacinths - \$10 each

Please fill out a form for each order

Please deliver my plant to a shut-in member

Check one:

Lily (white)

Daffodil (yellow)

Tulip (pink)

Hyacinth (blue)

in memory of _____

by _____

OR

in honor of _____

by _____

OR

in celebration of _____

by _____

MARCH 2019

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Groups Using Crossroads Building: AA Meetings: Tuesday & Thursdays 6-7pm in the Fellowship Hall Northside Writers: 1 st & 3 rd Thursdays 7-9pm in the Lounge St. John Board Meeting: 2 nd Thursday of the month 2-3pm in the Lounge (Sept.-June) Al-Anon Meetings: Saturdays 10-12pm in the Lounge Garden Nursery School: Basement & Stage (Sept.-June)					1	2 9am-12pm Amherst Symphony Scholarship Auditions 10am Alanon 5 pm Worship 6 pm Youth Night
3 10:15 am Worship	4 10 am Bible Study 7:30pm Amherst Alumni Choir Rehearsal	5 6pm AA	6 Ash Wednesday 12pm Worship at Crossroads 7pm Worship at St. Paul's	7 Sandwich Team 6pm AA 7pm Northside Writers Club	8	9 10am Alanon 5 pm Worship (Soup On Saturday after Worship)
10 10:15 am Worship (Annual Meeting Following)	11 10 am Bible Study	12 6pm AA	13 12pm Lunch and Litany at St. Paul's	14 Sandwich Team 2pm St John BM 6pm AA	15	16 10am Alanon 12:30pm – Movie Club 5pm Worship
17 10:15 am Worship	18 10 am Bible Study 7:30pm Amherst Alumni Choir Rehearsal	19 12pm Birthday Luncheon at Sean Patrick's 6pm AA	20 12pm Lunch and Litany at St. Paul's	21 Sandwich Team 6pm AA 7pm Northside Writers Club	22	23 10am Alanon 5 pm Worship
24 / 31 10:15 am Worship	25 10 am Bible Study	6pm AA	27 12pm Lunch and Litany at St. Paul's	28 Sandwich Team 6pm AA		30 10am- Alanon 4-7pm Crossroads and St. Paul's Youth Spaghetti Dinner Fundraiser

Crossroads Lutheran Church
4640 Main St
Amherst, NY 14226

Address Correction Requested



**CARING FOR OTHERS, NEAR AND FAR,
BECAUSE CHRIST CARES FOR US.**

February 2019

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(716) 839-1314
(716) 839-1691 fax

Our Pastor: Rev. Adam Miller-Stubbenick
PastorAdam@crossroadslutheranchurch.org
Our Vicar: Adam Arends
VicarAdam@crossroadslutheranchurch.org

Won't You Join Us?

Saturday worship	5 pm (Informal)
Sunday worship	10:15 am
Sunday School	9:15 am