

Tree of Life Lutheran Church

united in worship, sharing Jesus
and serving all people

Leaves of Life Newsletter

June 2023

Season of Pentecost



They were all filled with
the Holy Spirit ...

Acts 2:4, ESV

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!

Peach Shortcake

Virginia Johnson

2 c. sifted flour
3 t. baking powder
½ t. salt

Cut in:

¼ c. brown sugar
½ c. shortening

Add:

½ c. chopped pecans
1 beaten egg which is mixed with
2/3 c. light cream

Bake in pie plate or drop like biscuits. Bake at 450 for 10-12 minutes. Cover with chopped peaches.



We celebrate with you!!

6/1 George Hitchcock
Hannah Swan-Leuze
6/4 Virginia Johnson
Chris Radack
Bob Whitney
6/5 Jack Anderson
6/6 Nathan Gibson
6/11 Evelyn Lee
6/15 Judy Cowles
Michael Lucas
6/16 Ella Storms
6/21 Dennis Johnson
6/22 Debbi Morlock
6/26 Pastor Timothy Hoyer
6/27 Haydn Swan-Leuze

GOOD NEWS FROM PASTOR

We start learning how to be polite when we are kids. We are taught not to interrupt Mommy when she is talking. We are taught not to interrupt someone when they are talking on the phone. We learn we have to share, take turns, wait in line, wave good-bye, and say please and thank you. And there is a whole lot more.



Being polite teaches us how to be nice and respectful when we deal with other people. We have more ways that help us deal with other people that the world does not offer or teach. We have the ways Jesus gives us.

The things Jesus gives us are not on a list of what to do and what not to do. Jesus gives us things for our heart, to strengthen our heart, to give wisdom and understanding to our heart. Then we use those gifts to guide us in how we deal with people. So, we do not just go to church and then deal with life as usual. No, we go to church and there we are given these gifts from Jesus, and then trusting Jesus, we use them as we interact with people and cope with the events we face during the week. Jesus is very helpful to have with us as we live with one another.

Jesus gives us status. That is, he makes us his brother and sister. Confident of that status, we don't have to brag, we don't have to outperform others, we don't have to win, we don't have to be right. All those things are what we use to gain status, to look good, but since we already have our status in Jesus, we don't have to compete to look the best. We can let others tell their stories and only listen and support and celebrate with them.

Jesus gives us his sacrificial love, love that is based on his dying and rising for us. Jesus promises us that he gives us

his love so that we can use his love to love one another. His love is a love, not of romance, but of caring, of being willing to help the other even if it costs us time or money (it is sacrificial love). Jesus' love makes our hearts willing to give a neighbor a ride to Social Services or give a friend a ride to the doctor or grocery store. We go to their house and help them fix a leaky faucet or buy them a plunger to unplug their toilet. We sit with them in silence as they just want someone to be with them as they deal with the side effects of chemotherapy, or maybe they want to talk with us about dying because their family does not want to talk about death.



Jesus gives us his mercy. Here we can weep from the beauty of his mercy. The world runs on getting what you deserve, on meritocracy, on "may the best person win," on rules and regulations about who gets helped and who does not

qualify. The world divides people into those who are welcome and those who are not welcome. With Jesus' mercy, the emphasis is not on what the other person is or does, the emphasis is on what we do for them as a gift. We offer forgiveness instead of punishment, we offer welcome instead of making people qualify, we offer a meal instead of making them pay. It is a very different way to live.

So, when we think of Tree of Life, that is, when we think of the people who are gathered to meet at Tree of Life, if we ever wonder what is the purpose of our church, or what good does our church do, realize that each person on every day of the week is bringing Jesus' gifts to those they encounter. Each person forgives others. Each person gives help to others with their sacrificial love. Each person gives Jesus' goodness (status) to others. Oh, Tree of Life does a lot of loving.

Peace,
Pastor Hoyer



Your 2023 Church Council

President:	Darcy Whitney
Vice-President:	Debbie Swan
Treasurer:	Dorie Deyo
Secretary:	Debra Radack

Council Members:

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

Church Council will meet on Monday,

June 12 at 6:30 pm. ☺

APRIL 2023 FINANCIAL PICTURE:

Income: \$10,615.70
Expenses: \$10,938.35
Monthly difference: (\$322.65)

TOL email Prayer Chain: Prayer requests can be made through Darcy at the church office (716) 488-4235; 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 July issue of *Leaves of Life* Newsletter is Sunday, June 18th. Please email any news to admin@toljamestown.com by that date. Thank you!



Esther Circle will meet Wednesday, June 7, at 1:30 in the Tree of Life church library. The Bible Study will be from the May/June *Gather* magazine. All women are welcome!



Worship Assistants

COMMUNION ASSISTANTS

June 4: Sandy Stewart
18: Dorie Deyo

LECTORS

June 4: Judy DuBois
11: Darcy Whitney
18: Cindy Swan
25: Janet Thom

GREETERS

June 4: Sylvia Braley
11: Dorie Deyo
18: Sandy Stewart
25: Hal & Marlene Hanson

ALTAR CARE

June: – Darcy Whitney



Council Corner

****We are still looking into possibly replacing the water fountain in the hallway near the church office.**

****We will be observing Maundy Thursday and Good Friday differently next year. More information will be available next year before Holy Week.**

****Wednesday, August 9, has been reserved for our Church Picnic. More info to follow in the July issue of *Leaves of Life*. Save that date!**

****As your Church Council, don't forget we are here for YOU. Please don't hesitate to contact any one of us with questions, concerns, ideas, or anything else 😊**

Darcy Whitney, Council President

Shattering Eight Myths About Grief

advice from Hospice Foundation of America

A more accurate understanding of the way grief affects us can facilitate healing.

Myth 1: We only grieve deaths.

Reality: We grieve all losses.

Myth 2: Only family members grieve.

Reality: All who are attached grieve.

Myth 3: Grief is an emotional reaction.

Reality: Grief is manifested in many ways.

Myth 4: Individuals should leave grieving at home.

Reality: We cannot control where we grieve.

Myth 5: We slowly and predictably recover from grief.

Reality: Grief is an uneven process, a roller coaster with no timeline.

Myth 6: Grieving means letting go of the person who died.

Reality: We never fully detach from those who have died.

Myth 7: Grief finally ends.

Reality: Over time most people learn to live with loss.

Myth 8: Grievers are best left alone.

Reality: Grievers need opportunities to share their memories and grief, and to receive support.



Our Annual Church Picnic will be held Wednesday, August 9th, at 5:00 p.m., in the Tree of Life church yard. Please save the date and plan on coming! More information will be in next month's newsletter.



We have Coffee Hour on the first Sunday of each month ☺ We need 2 volunteers each month to host (help get ready & help serve) and 2 volunteers to bring treats (about 2 dozen each). Please sign up in the narthex. Please see Darcy Whitney if you have any questions. Thank you!

Special dates in June:

- Trinity Sunday, *June 4, 2023*
- Flag Day, *June 14, 2023*
- Father's Day, *June 18, 2023*
- Juneteenth, *June 19, 2023*
- First day of summer, *June 21, 2023*



The best remedy for those who are afraid, lonely or unhappy is to go outside, somewhere where they can be quite alone with the heavens, nature and God. Because only then does one feel that all is as it should be and that God wishes to see people happy, amidst the simple beauty of nature. As long as this exists, and it certainly always will, I know that then there will always be comfort for every sorrow, whatever the circumstances may be. And I firmly believe that nature brings solace in all troubles.

—Anne Frank, *Diary of a Young Girl*



- I wondered why the baseball kept getting bigger and bigger. Then it hit me.
- What did the baseball glove say to the ball? "Catch ya later!"
- Why are frogs good baseball players? Because they're good at catching flies.
- Why did Cinderella get kicked off the baseball team? She ran away from the ball.





Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Church Office Hours 9 am – 1 pm Monday - Friday				1 8:30 TOPS	2 10-2 Food Cupboard Synod Assembly	3
4 <u>The Holy Trinity</u> 9:00 Worship w/Holy Communion – Coffee Hour to follow	5 10:30 Bible Study	6 10:00 Howard Holroyd funeral @ TOL	7 10-2 Food Cupboard 1:30 Esther Circle	8 8:30 TOPS	9 10-2 Food Cupboard	10 6-10 am AMBA Blood Draw – Anderson Hall
11 <u>Pentecost 2</u> 9:00 Worship	12 6:30 Church Council	13	14 10-2 Food Cupboard 	15 8:30 TOPS	16 10-2 Food Cupboard	17
18 <u>Pentecost 3</u> 9:00 Worship w/Holy Communion <i>Newsletter Deadline</i>	19 10:30 Bible Study 	20	21 10-2 Food Cupboard 	22 8:30 TOPS	23 10-2 Food Cupboard	24 7-1 ASHF Midsommar Celebration
25 <u>Pentecost 4</u> 9:00 Worship	26	27	28 10-2 Food Cupboard	29 8:30 TOPS	30 10-2 Food Cupboard	