

THE COMMUNICATOR

JUNE 2025



“For I know the plans I have for you, declares the Lord, plans to prosper you and not harm you, plans to give you a future and a hope.”

Jeremiah 29:11

A Farewell Message

As this is my final newsletter article to you, there are a few things I want to share. Spending the past 21 years with you has been both a joy and a privilege. You have stood with me through good times and hard times. I will always

remember your love and care following the loss of my son and again during my cancer diagnosis. Through all the years, my love for you has only grown.



As we prepare for new chapters, let me offer a brief outline of what lies ahead. In the first weeks or months, supply pastors will lead worship. The Bishop assures me that they will aim for consistency, with just one or two regular supply pastors.

An interim pastor will also be appointed. This person will guide you through the transition and provide pastoral care. During this time, the call committee will be formed to help identify your next pastor. They'll evaluate community demographics, budget, mission vision, and the leadership style best suited for your future.

Expect to explore questions like: What kind of leader do we need? What theological perspective is fitting? What is the congregation's mission today?

Remember, this is a deliberate and important process. Skipping or rushing through it will not serve you well. Candidates will want to see an active and engaged church, not one on pause.

Above all, trust God, who never abandons the church but empowers it to proclaim the gospel.

Before I go, let me lift up one final mission I hope you'll consider. A fund has been established for the purchase of a new and larger piano in the sanctuary — a tool to enhance our music ministry and outreach. A better instrument could open the door to concerts, choirs, and community engagement. I encourage you to support this fund.

You are a strong, vibrant congregation. God has placed you here for a reason. May God bless you in this next season.

Joachim Wille

FROM MAINTENANCE TO MISSION



Today's congregations face a vital challenge; moving beyond maintenance into mission.

Here are some distinctions between maintenance churches and mission churches:

- Measuring effectiveness: Maintenance asks, "How many pastoral visits were made?" Mission asks, "How many disciples were made?"
- Facing change: Maintenance says, "Let's avoid upsetting people." Mission says, "If this helps reach outsiders, how can we not?"
- Vision: Maintenance says, "Be faithful to our past." Mission says, "Be faithful to the future."
- Focus: Maintenance churches focus on members. Mission churches focus on the culture around them.
- Leadership style: Maintenance is managerial. Mission is transformational.
- Conflict: Maintenance avoids it. Mission sees it as a byproduct of growth.

Mission congregations aren't afraid to walk "off the map." They aim to understand and reach the unchurched. They burn energy not to save themselves, but to reach the world.

It's not an easy shift, but it is the way forward.

Why I Go to Church

by Pastor Wilck

John 14:31a – “I do as the Father has commanded me, so that the world may know that I love the Father.”

Here are seven reasons I go to church, and why i invite you to join:

1. **To become better.** Church isn't a showcase for saints, but a school for sinners. Here, I learn to be better, to reset my moral compass.
2. **To give as well as receive.** The church is not a rest stop but a working outpost. It gives us a chance to serve and be the hands of Christ.
3. **To pay my debt to society.** The church uplifts and transforms. I want to support an institution that champions kindness, inclusion, and peace.
4. **To remember.** Church is where life's milestones – baptism, confirmation, mourning, communion – take place. It holds our memories and sacred moments.
5. **To find hope.** In a chaotic world, the church continues to hope for peace and love. It is a voice of calm and a vision of what's possible.
6. **To support others.** Strong and struggling alike need encouragement. The church gathers people who lift one another up in faith.
7. **To partner with Christ.** The church is Christ's. If we believe in Him, we must support His Church.

We are called to be on fire for this cause. Come and be part of it.



WELCA END-OF-YEAR LUNCHEON



Join us for our ANNUAL END-OF-THE-YEAR
LUNCH OUT on

TUESDAY, JUNE 3 AT 12:30 PM

at **THE SILO BRUNCH BAR**

300 PADDY CREEK CIRCLE, GREECE
(LOCATED NEXT TO APPLEBEE'S AND OLIVE
GARDEN ON WEST RIDGE ROAD)

A SIGN-UP SHEET will be available on the
table in the NARTHEX.

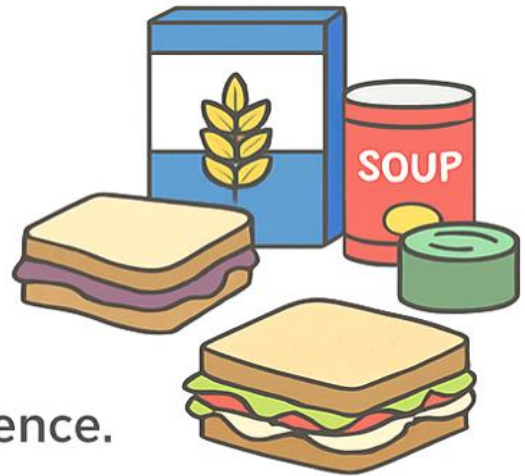
If you have any questions, please contact
ANN SEPPA.

And remember – ALL WOMEN OF LUTHERAN
CHURCH OF OUR SAVIOUR ARE MEMBERS OF
WELCA. We hope to see you there!

- ANN SEPPA, SECRETARY

CHURCH & COMMUNITY – JUNE 2025

We're excited to share that during the month of April, we collected \$570 for St. Theodore's Food Pantry! A heartfelt thank you to everyone who donated. Your generosity makes a difference.



Our collection of non-perishable food items for St. Theodore's Pantry continues year-round. Your ongoing support is deeply appreciated.

We also continue to prepare and deliver:
200 PB & J sandwiches for St. Peter's Kitchen
30 sandwiches for People Helping People

Thank you to the dedicated volunteers who show up each month!

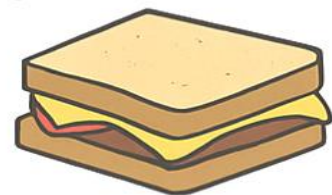
Join us!

We meet on the second Thursday of each month at 9:30 AM in the Augsburg Room. This month's sandwich-making date is:

Thursday, June 12 at 9:30 AM

It only takes about an hour of your time to help.

Let's continue serving our neighbors in love and gratitude!

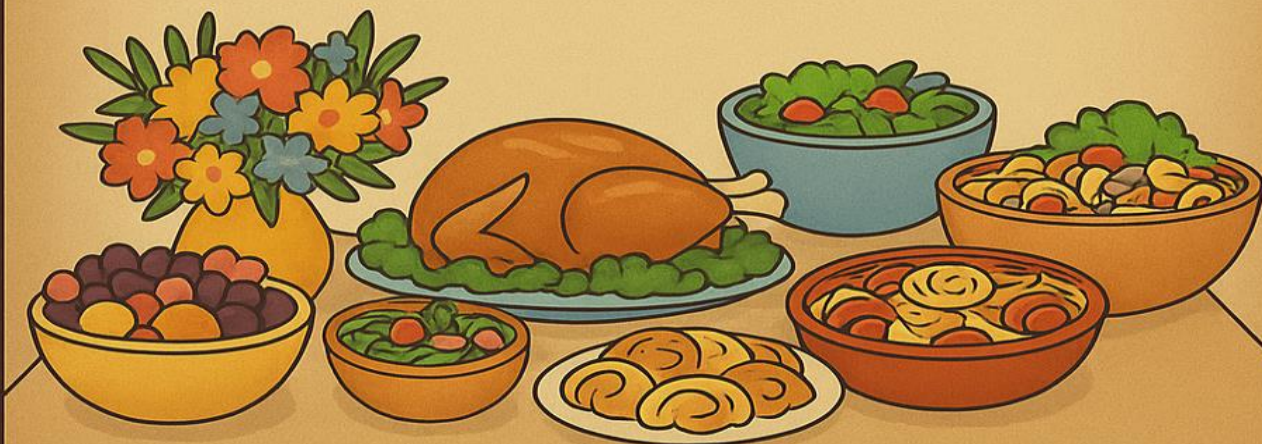


– Ann Seppa, Chair

Please Reply

A mailing has been sent to you—
please fill out and return it to the church.

Join us for
Pastor Wilck's
RETIREMENT LUNCHEON
Sunday, June 29 at 12:00 p.m.
at Jack's Place – Chili Country Club



*Celebrating 21 years of
faithful service and dedication*

**Celebrating 21 years of faithful
service and dedication**



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES

— JUNE 15 —

Esther Yackel graduating from RN Nursing Program at MCC.

Stephen Bomberger receiving his Law Degree at NY Law School.

Chloe Osterling graduating from Chili High School she a member of World Language Honor Society; she will attend SUNY Brockport to study psychology and neuroscience.

John D. Coval graduating from Gates-Chili High School. Magna Cum Laude with academic and music honors, he will be attending SUNY Geneseo to study Early Childhood Education

Gabriel Foltz receiving his Master of Science in Finance from RIT in August; is a member of Beta Gamma Sigma international business honor society

Nadia Shaw our resident Soprano is graduating from Odyssey High School with both music and academic distinction: she was accepted at every school she applied to for Vocal Performance with scholarships, she will attend the Crane School of Music at SUNY Potsdam



Service Schedule



June 1

Service Leader:	Brian Spencer
Usher:	Larry & Sharon Nazarian
Lector:	Pam Spencer
Communion Assistants:	Lois Dannenberg & Pam Spencer
Greeter:	Joe Caputo
Cross Bearer	TBA

June 8

Service Leader:	Carol Werth
Usher:	Mary Ellen Saur
Lector:	Drew Emerson
Communion Assistant:	Deb Macksamie & Ed Jarvis
Cross Bearer:	Paul Hamblin
Greeter:	Daryl Jarvis

June 15

Service Leader:	Frank Johnson
Usher:	Alice Newbury
Lector:	Carol Ransom
Communion Assistants:	Alice Newbury & Carol Werth
Greeter:	Paul Hamblin
Cross Bearer:	Luke Coval

June 22

Service Leader:	Diane Parke/Potter
Ushers:	Rod Potter
Lector:	Deb Ciccone
Communion Assistants:	Deb Yackel & Rod Potter
Cross Bearer:	John Macksamie
Greeter:	Ann Seppa

June 29

Service Leader:	Pam Brady
Usher:	Deb Frey
Lector:	Mike Frey
Communion Assistants:	Deb Frey & Steve Brady
Cross Bearer:	TBA
Greeter:	Carol Werth



JUNE BIRTHDAYS



Ken Keller—June 2	Ed Jarvis—June 24
Caleb Blank—June 4	John Tesch—June 24
Barb Collins—June 4	Steve Eries—June 25
Gordon Seppa—June 5	Jaxson Karcher—June 25
Alice Newbury—June 5	Jakob Wiesmore—June
Ruth Pearce—June 12	
Elaine De Vantier—June 21	
Barbara Sihto—June 22	
Elizabeth Hickey—June 23	
Jason Stone—June 23	
Ed Jarvis—John Tesch	



∞ JUNE ANNIVERSARIES

David & Becky Wiesmore—June 6 (32 years)
Steve & Fam Brady—June 9
Frank & Francine Johnson—June 17 (19 years)
Jim & Ann Marie MacBride—June 17 (58 years)
Larry & Sharon Nazarian—June 22 (62 years)
Steve & Meredith Fries—15 years (15 years)
Ed & Daryl Jarvis—59 years
Ken & Nedra Keller—41 years

CALENDAR OF EVENTS LISTING

Regular Sunday Schedule

9:00 a.m. Choir Practice

9:15 a.m. Adult Bible Study or Confirmation Class

9:15 a.m. Sunday School (Special activity on first Sunday)

10:00 a.m. Communion Service

11:10 Bell Choir Practice

Happening at Church

June 2	Monday	6:30 p.m.	Scouting America
June 3	Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		12:30 p.m.	WELCA End of Year Luncheon-Out
June 7	Saturday	9:00 a.m.	Landscape Clean-up Day
June 8	Sunday	Pentecost & Confirmation (Last Sunday School Class)	
June 9	Monday	6:30 p.m.	Scouting America
June 10	Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
		11:30 a.m.	CLC Meeting
		6:30 p.m.	Properties Committee
June 12	Thursday	9:30 a.m.	PB&J Ministry
June 14	Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Baptism of Liv Eleanor Engels
June 15	Sunday	Father's Day & Graduate Day & Sunday School Leader Appreciation Day	
June 16	Monday	6:30 p.m.	Council Meeting, Scouting America
June 17	Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study
June 24	Tuesday	10:00 a.m.	Bible Study (Last one before Summer)
June 29	Sunday	Pastor Wilck Farewell Service & Luncheon	

The German School Meets Friday's at 5:30 p.m. and Saturdays at 9:00 a.m.

CHANGE OF SERVICE
REQUESTED

Lutheran Church of Our Saviour
2415 Chili Avenue
Rochester, NY 14624

The Lutheran Church of Our Saviour— Communicator



(585) 247-7824

office@oursaviourrochester.org

Website: www.OurSaviourRochester.org

The Reverend Joachim Wilck, Pastor

*A member congregation of the Upstate
New York Synod Evangelical Lutheran
Church in America*

Live Stream!!!!

Sunday's at 10:00 a.m.



Live Streaming

Go to our website and click the link.

[Www.oursaviourrochester.org](http://www.oursaviourrochester.org)

Or copy or type this into your browser:

**[https://www.youtube.com/channel/
UCZ97KCbyuuanQXPLPt53UOw/live](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCZ97KCbyuuanQXPLPt53UOw/live)**