

## SMC Newsletter September 2023

Contrary to the hot weather expected this week, fall is here. Get ready for our fall events. If there is anything you would like included for the next newsletter, please tell me. Many blessings, Patty

### **ECW Update – The next meeting will be Friday, October 6<sup>th</sup>, at 10AM in the Parish Hall**

**A take-out fundraising lasagna dinner will be this Friday, September 8, starting at 4:30.** Dinner will include homemade lasagna and meatballs, antipasto salad, garlic bread, and pineapple upside-down cake. Cost of the meal is \$12. A portion of the proceeds will help fund the sending of our Operation Christmas Child boxes this fall.

There will be an **ECW memorial pie sale and Lion's Club sponsored community dinner Saturday, Nov. 18<sup>th</sup> to honor Peter Watts.**

The ECW will be organizing bags for seniors in our community for Christmas.

The **Christmas Bazaar will be Saturday, Dec 2<sup>nd</sup>.** Look for further information.

We warmly invite and welcome all women of St. Mary's!

(Just a reminder: Meeting minutes, once approved, are now posted on the bulletin boards in the parish hall and at the back of the church.)



### **An Update from Meryl on Birthdays and Anniversaries.**

#### **Birthdays for September are:**

Max Novak Sept 13<sup>th</sup>, Jennie Peters and Dylan Walker Sept 18<sup>th</sup>, and Linda Sarles Sept 26<sup>th</sup>.

#### **Anniversaries for September are:**

Mark & Jennie Peters Sept 21<sup>st</sup>, Dave & Dana VanAuken Sept 19<sup>th</sup>, and Ted & Jacquie Walker Sept 29<sup>th</sup>.

Please give Meryl your birthdate so we don't forget anyone's birthday! You do not need to give the year! Please notify Meryl of any upcoming anniversaries. Photos are also welcome from these occasions.

### **SMC Studies, and Holy Week Services**

**Morning Prayer will not be resuming in the Fall.**

**Choir will be starting near the end of September.** We would love more members!

**Wednesday Eucharist and Lectionary Study** at 10am.

**The Chosen Season 3 has finished.** The last episode was well attended. We can't wait until Season 4.

**Alpha will start in January.** There were scheduling conflicts in the fall.



## DOK

The meeting for the next DOK is Sunday, Sept 17th, after church in the sanctuary.

There will be a loose offering solicitation in church on Sept. 10<sup>th</sup> for International DOK crosses. Please find more information on this at the end of the newsletter.

Thank you to anyone who donated to the 25 retreat bags for “Healing a Women’s Soul.” We are sure they will be well received.

The school and community prayer went well on August 31<sup>st</sup>. We had ten people. Three people were from outside our church.

DOK will be collecting socks again for the Hadley – Luzerne Elementary school. For girls and boys we need small, medium, large, and x-large sizes. Last year we collected over 2081 pairs.

Our DOK chapter has applied for an international prayer partner in Uganda. We are waiting for our pairing.

Our Diocesan Fall Assembly at CTK is Saturday, Oct 28<sup>th</sup>.



## Community Lunch

The DOK is sponsoring the community dinner on Saturday, Sept 23<sup>rd</sup> at 12pm. The dinner will be Shepherd’s Pie, salad, and dessert. Hope you all will attend and bring a friend.



## Ted and A Washcloth

**God ordained and orchestrated my shoebox. It opened my heart to something that changed my life forever.**

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### Operation Christmas Child

**Meryl has sent along a link to a testimonial from Operation Christmas Child recipient. It is about Ted from the former Soviet Union.**

[https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-stories-ted/?fbclid=IwAR21sfu3GL5YptCxVvugikfD4Ne3msqvI7UR0xDiYqaPReFd4PGfyvfxTes\\_aem\\_ATObWRurNQdxvmIPRUMzCvx1qM9i1EIQHGKER48Sy63PulbmSux5rADtkYtu07Dnjdl](https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-stories-ted/?fbclid=IwAR21sfu3GL5YptCxVvugikfD4Ne3msqvI7UR0xDiYqaPReFd4PGfyvfxTes_aem_ATObWRurNQdxvmIPRUMzCvx1qM9i1EIQHGKER48Sy63PulbmSux5rADtkYtu07Dnjdl)

**Besides Ted's story there are many more.**

<https://www.samaritanspurse.org/operation-christmas-child/shoebox-stories-index/>

**Meryl has a note at the end of this newsletter with more Operation Christmas Child requests.**

### Prayer Requests

**\*\**Please Pray for:*** Bishop Dan's family and friends as they grieve his passing, John, Bruce, Rick, Rich, Noel, Claudette, Tom, Vanessa, Julia and her family and doctors, Ruth M, Melissa, the family of Chris, Nancy W. and family, Nancy N. and family, Bob and Jan, Janine, Mike C., Nancy M., Gayle M., Mike K., Teri N., John and Dot, Sylvia, Mrs. Mayo, Mary D., Gillian T., Carl H., Ruth B., Sandy and Rich, Barb B-L., Jeff, Kristen, Kathryn and her unborn son, Maura and her unborn child, Ray and Tracy, Mary Carol and Alan, Kailee and Dante, Ryan, Denise, Bob, Schuyler, and Romi, Mary, Marika, Gordi, Joyce, Jackie L., Kathy, Sonia, Carole, Greta, Russell, Joan and Jimmy, Brenda B., Andy P., Dave, Diane and Rachel, Daisy and family. Our community's youth, the men and women in law enforcement, EMT's, fire departments, and in the armed forces of our country, all victims and families of the COVID-19 pandemic, the victims of war and natural disasters around the world. All those whose needs are known only to our Lord.

***Diocesan Cycle of Prayer*** for Bishop Smith, the Standing Committee, the Profile and Search Committee, and for Holiness of life in every Episcopalian. Additionally, please see: <https://albanvepiscopaldiocese.org/prayer/jnml>

**Please contact Fr. Lou by email [frlou@stmarysluzerne.org](mailto:frlou@stmarysluzerne.org) or by phone or text at 802.734.0263 with updates.**

### Karen Love's Bible Study

Please join us for the Jen Wilkin Bible Study:  
***God of Covenant - A study of Genesis 12-50***  
St Mary's Episcopal Church, 220 Lake Avenue, Lake Luzerne  
10-week sessions:

September 12<sup>th</sup> – November 14<sup>th</sup> 2023  
Tuesdays from 4:00-5:15 pm in the Parish Hall  
Cost: The workbook is \$18.00 (if you want to order a workbook, please order ASAP)  
For more information & to order a workbook,  
call Karen Love at (518) 260-2391

## Odds and Ends

**Thank you to everyone who brought something to the SMC Annual Potluck Picnic on August 20.** Thank you to Anson for working the grill and to everyone who put up and took down the tents.

**Please pray to the election of our new Bishop this Saturday, Sept. 9<sup>th</sup>.**

**A note from Meryl about Operation Christmas Child.**

**More information on the International DOK crosses.**

**See pictures from Deacon Alan Hart's visit, the annual picnic, the community lunch, and the visiting Novak boys.**

### **A note from Meryl.**

Most of you will know about Operation Christmas Child. Because this our mission outreach to the ends of the earth and has been a project of St Mary's Church for many years. It's that time of year again. And bargains can be found for packing a box for a child. Ages 2-4, 5-9 and 10-14.

Suggested items are school journals, crayons and pencils including colored pencils. Sharpeners and erasers. Kids scissors, Pencil case. A soft stuffed toy, a doll, toys cars, toy dinosaurs or zoo animals. Balls, jump rope, yo-yo. Toothbrush. Soap in original wrapper. Wash cloth. Mardi Gras necklaces. Items of clothing and a tote bag or backpack.

Yes, you can get a lot in to the boxes. Which will be provided at no charge again this year, I will be collecting them from a Project Leader's meeting in Saratoga Springs. And will be available after from mid-September, to be returned by the end of October please.

Just use your imagination and fill a box with fun!!!

This is not humanitarian aid but a specific special one-time gift for a child who may never receive any of the children's items you include.

One time use items are discouraged. Such as Kleenex or wipes. Because in many places there is no such luxury as trash removal. And burning causes toxic air. It is also suggested that as much plastic and cardboard packing is removed. This helps to have less trash and makes more space in your box, giving more space for an extra item!!

And of course, no liquids or lotions or toothpaste. Food items or seeds or shells. And nothing made of glass. Or anything that would represent war or aggression.

If you have a heart for children and want to reach them with the good news of the Gospel of Jesus and God's love. But you are for any reason unable to do the shopping there is a solution.

For a donation of \$20 I can put together a special box for the age group and gender of your choice. Of course, you can donate more \$ or even an item you want.

This year we hope to pack 100 boxes. That's 12 more than last year when we packed. 88. Those boxes have blessed children in The Dominican Republic, Honduras, Malawi, and South Africa.

And gave them the opportunity to hear how God loves them and to attend the Sunday School Course known as the Greatest Journey and receive biblical books in their own languages.

I cannot do everything, but I can do something, Lord what would you have me do?

God Bless you. Meryl ♡ PS. I have been making tote bags, and pencil cases. And a few other items that will be available if you want to add to your box at no cost 🙏







Welcome Home Initiative  
Fall Retreat  
Oct. 30—Nov. 1, 2023



## Hymn: God Be With You

God be with you till we meet again;  
By his counsels guide, uphold you;  
With his sheep securely fold you.  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
Till we meet at Jesus' feet,  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

## International DOK Crosses

The Order has an account for International crosses to be given to new International Daughters as they are admitted to chapters in countries around the world. The crosses are paid for through US donations as most of our International countries are unable to afford to purchase them.

Many countries do not have safe mail service, so crosses must be taken by "couriers," Daughters or reliable persons who are traveling to the various countries.

Most of the five assembled countries (those with enough chapters to form assemblies and elect their own officers) have their crosses made in their countries. (Malawi's crosses are made in Italy!) The other active countries are growing at incredible rates and often need crosses. We are currently sending crosses to Belgium (10) and Uganda (114 to complete an order of 214!) We may need crosses for several possible new countries and more for new candidates in our current countries. Help us keep the international cross account healthy!

Emily Thrasher  
International Committee

