



# The Evangelist

## Summer 2023

### PENTECOST LOST AND FOUND by Fr. Nick Smith

How I got lost at Pentecost  
while on a trip abroad  
Is quite a tale and never stale;  
At least I'm always awed.

It's so far-fetched, I don't expect  
you'd think that it is true,  
but if you doubt, just hear me out.  
I'll share it all with you.

A business trip by sailing ship  
across to Palestine,  
to sell some wares and trade for theirs;  
it should have all gone fine.

But I forgot what I'd been taught  
about their festive ways  
Specifically what one would see  
On Hebrew holidays.

This Pentecost, when I got lost,  
was such a special time,  
the Week of Weeks, which to us  
Greeks  
Made just no sense nor rhyme.

Jerusalem, that's where they come,  
Up to the temple mount  
to pay respects as God's subjects;  
More folks than I could count.

They clogged the streets like flocks of  
geese;  
that's how I lost my way,  
while pushed and tossed, around,  
across the town that holiday.

I looked around and sadly found  
I knew not where I stood.  
I had survived but had arrived  
in some strange neighborhood.

I'm such a dope! I asked with hope  
Some guy who had a beard  
who could not speak a word of Greek!  
Then things got really weird.

I heard it first, a distant burst,  
Like an explosive round;

though not forecast, a sudden blast  
of wind swept through the town

And filled with dread, I turned my head  
to face away from there,  
but as it grew, that strong wind blew  
it seemed from everywhere.

I tried to stand in swirling sand,  
debris of every kind,  
but had to fall against a wall  
and huddled there resigned.

Then suddenly and luckily,  
while taking such a toll,  
that roaring rush became a hush  
as if it found its goal.

And when I tried, eyes open wide,  
to see what had occurred  
I saw twelve men assembled then,  
and this is what I heard:

One spoke real loud, addressed the  
crowd,  
on behalf of all his crew.  
I heard him preach in quite good  
Greek, although he was a Jew!

How curious that various  
languages were heard  
when he spoke just the one he must.  
All else would be absurd.

I know for fact that place was packed  
with foreigners on end  
yet it was odd that each would nod  
as if they comprehend.

I thought maybe the words might be  
oddly arbitrary,  
that what was said was in my head;  
but that would be too scary.

But here's the part that if you're smart  
you'll find hard to accept:  
a burning flame to each one came,  
and o'er their heads it leapt.

I kid you not! I've seen a lot  
while traveling overseas,  
but those twelve guys, you realize,  
just brought me to my knees!

I asked around; here's what I found:  
Those twelve were Jews alright,  
disciples, too, of one they knew  
to be a godly light.

That one was killed, his blood was  
spilled.  
but he came back to life  
and promised all who heard his call  
that he would ease their strife

He couldn't stay, he went away,  
but seems he kept his word;  
He sent, they say, that very day  
The Spirit which us stirred.

Yes, all that gale and fiery sail  
were meant to reassure  
that gift of Christ which once sufficed  
continues to endure.

The Jews, you know, tie quite a bow  
'round all things spiritual.  
Creation, plea, and prophecy  
are in their ritual.

But such display of pow'r that day  
was way outside the zone;  
I saw the facts, the Spirit acts  
in ways I'd never known

I must admit, to think of it,  
that I'm just not the same.  
What happened there gave me a  
scare,  
but also lit a flame.

Sometimes I feel that it's so real  
it warms and lights my way.  
So, I got lost at Pentecost,  
but thank God for that day!

Amen

## Ministry Schedule for June thru Labor Day 2023

	<b>6/4/23</b>	<b>6/11/23</b>	<b>6/18/23</b>	<b>6/25/23</b>	
Celebrant	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	
Preacher	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	
LEM	Colette	Leslie	Gloria	Peter	
Organist	Colleen H	N/A	Colleen H.	Colleen H.	
1st Lesson	Susan	Ann	Shelly	Bob	
2nd Lesson	Leslie	Colette	Bob	Leslie	
Acolyte	Sarah	Val	Shelly	Stanl	
Ushers	Shelly/Gisela	Suzanne/Norita	Ann/Bob	Shelly/Gisela	
Computer	Leslie	Marc A.	Kelly	Leslie	
Camera	Gale	Bob	Kellie	Colette	
Altar Guild	Leslie/Gale	Leslie/Gale	Leslie/Gale	Leslie/Gale	
Counters	Stan/Peter	Stan/Peter	Stan/Peter	Stan/Peter	
Coffee Hour	NEED	Shelly	NEED	NEED	
St. Pauly Box	Bob	Bob	Bob	Bob	
	<b>7/2/23</b>	<b>7/9/23</b>	<b>7/16/23</b>	<b>7/23/23</b>	<b>7/30/23</b>
Celebrant	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+
Preacher	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+
LEM	Colette	Leslie	Gloria	Peter	Colette
Organist	Colleen H	Colleen H.	Colleen H.	Colleen H.	Colleen H.
1st Lesson	Peter	Gloria	Kelly	Sandy	Ann
2nd Lesson	Colette	Gale	Ann	Colette	Susan
Acolyte	Sarah	Val	Shelly	Stan	Sarah
Ushers	Suzanne/Norita	Ann/Bob	Suzanne/Norita	Shelly/Gisela	Ann/Bob
Computer	Marc	Kelly	Leslie	Marc	Kelly
Camera	Gale	Colette	Bob	Kellie	Gale
Altar Guild	Shelly/Leanne	Shelly/Leanne	Shelly/Leanne	Shelly/Leanne	Shelly/Leanne
Counters	Leslie/Kelly	Leslie/Kelly	Leslie/Kelly	Leslie/Kelly	Leslie/Kelly
Coffee Hour	NEED	NEED	NEED	NEED	NEED
St. Pauly Box	Jack M	Jack M	Jack M	Jack M	Jack M
	<b>8/6/23</b>	<b>8/13/23</b>	<b>8/20/23</b>	<b>8/27/23(Picnic)</b>	<b>9/3/23</b>
Celebrant	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+
Preacher	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+	Nick+
LEM	Gloria	Leslie	Peter	Colette	Gloria
Organist	Colleen H	Colleen H.	Colleen H.	Colleen H.	Colleen H.
1st Lesson	Susan	Val	Gale	Shelly	Peter
2nd Lesson	Val	Shelly	Peter	Bob	Gloria
Acolyte	Val	Shelly	Stan	Sarah	Val
Ushers	Shelly/Gisela	Suzanne/Norita	Ann/Bob	N/A	Shelly/Gisela
Computer	Leslie	Marc	Kelly	N/A	Kelly
Camera	Bob	Colette	Kellie	N/A	Gale
Altar Guild	Gisela/Ann	Gisela/Ann	Gisela/Ann	Gisela/Ann	Val/Colette
Counters	Val/Colette	Val/Colette	Val/Colette	Val/Colette	Stan/Peter
Coffee Hour	NEED	NEED	NEED	NEED	NEED
St. Pauly Box	Susan S.	Susan S.	Susan S.	Susan S.	Kellie



## Showing Pentecost Red

I think that Naomi and Gisela must have called each other. Look how well they matched each other. Great Job Ladies. Showing that Holy Spirit!

## Birthdays and Anniversaries

### Happy Birthday!

#### May (sorry I missed them)

1st Sheila Aylesworth  
5th Porter Fitch  
9th Bob Wilkins  
11th Suzanne Clark  
14th Stan Janczuk  
30th Scott Youngkrans

#### June

5th Birdy Birdick  
14th Landon Youngkrans  
15th Shane Weismore  
20th Zachary Hirst  
28th Ann Hodgins  
29th Kathie Chyrywaty

#### July

6th Frank Coppola  
20th Florence Robinson  
26th John Gulick  
31st Peter Dwyer

#### August

2nd Anne Hill

11th Haley Youngkrans  
12th Susanne Bauer  
15th Susan Slaunwhite  
24th Gale Smith  
31th Susan Schneider

### Happy Anniversary!

#### May (sorry I missed it)

4th Tom and Shelly Sears

#### June

2nd James and Kimberly Dwyer  
10th John and Merle Maxey  
13th Jerry and Sandy Aylesworth  
14th Walter and Cheyenne Johnson

#### July

2nd Peter and Carol Dwyer  
4th Shane and Laura Weismore  
24th Doug and Gerrie Miller

#### August

10th Scott and LeAnne Youngkrans  
18th Joan and John Livingston

## Our Parish Prayer List

Roger Wieland  
Beth Wieland  
Joan Livingston  
Jane Armstrong  
Laura Weismore  
Birdy Burdick  
Grace Livingston  
Brian Hodgins  
Bill Sherman  
Theressia  
Tom Campanie  
Jerry Aylesworth  
Sandy Aylesworth  
Dawn Lanz  
Joe Smith  
Courtney Daviau  
Larry Knipp  
Mimi  
John  
Kathy  
Shelia  
Butch English  
Ron Hirst  
Peter Dwyer  
Mitch

Rose Rinaldo  
Fr. Jim Heidt & Meribeth  
Jennifer Wattles  
Martha Walrath  
Zander  
Dick Williams  
Robert  
Peg MacMullen  
Nicole  
Christine Sears Franklin  
Kathi Hirst  
Jessica  
Megan Roberts  
Rani  
Dan Stilwell  
David Dauchy  
John Reinhardt  
Betty Kline  
Carol Dwyer  
Dennis Relyea  
Tom Lessard  
Jim Dwyer  
Carl Cameron  
Matt Buell  
Sally Olin

Joe Donlon  
Alexa  
Maria  
Roger Hill  
Lydia Reed  
Karis Vaillancourt  
Veronica S.  
George H.  
Ross T.  
Jason V.  
Faye S.  
Diane A.  
Bob Vanlangenham  
Pat Sticca  
Will  
Jim Messenger-Harris  
Lisa  
Charlene Lewis  
Emma  
Victoria Raymundo  
Mike Smith

## Food Bank Donations

### **June**

4 Pasta  
11 Pasta Sauce  
18 Crackers  
25 Soup

### **July**

2 Peanut butter  
9 Jelly  
16 Mac & Cheese  
23 Paper products  
30 Fruit Cups

### **August**

6 Pancake Mix  
13 Syrup  
22 Cereal  
27 Applesauce

## Signs of Joy!

God is showing off by putting a rainbow around the sun - submitted by Colette Coppola



## Confirmation Class in Full Swing



Joy is not a constant. It comes to us in moments - often ordinary moments. Sometimes we miss out on the bursts of joy because we're too busy chasing down the extraordinary moments. Other times we're so afraid of the dark we don't dare let ourselves enjoy the light. A joyful life is not a floodlight of joy. That would eventually become unbearable. I believe a joyful life is made up of joyful moments gracefully strung together by trust, gratitude and inspiration

**Easter Flowers were beautiful this year.  
Thank you to everyone who donated towards them.**



**Blessed are you, O God,  
in whom nothing is wasted.  
You salvage the remnant,  
the scrap, the shred.  
You bless what is left  
from the consuming fire, the devouring flood,  
the shearing wind, the shifting earth.  
All that remains  
returns to you  
and is reborn from you.  
Blessed are you, O God,  
who brings life from the earth  
and will return it to the earth  
once again.  
—Jan Richardson, *In Wisdom's Path*, p. 6**

**The Cross Walk  
from St. John's  
to Triangle Park  
on Good Friday**



**DON'T FORGET THE CHURCH PICNIC ON AUGUST 27th at VERONA  
BEACH STATE PARK - SAME PAVILION AS IN THE PAST!**

## Welcome Rev. Michael Todd



Hi Church Family Gerrie and I were so honored and proud to be at our Nephew's (also Godson) Rev. Michael Todd installation as Rector of St. Luke's on the Hill Episcopal Church.

He was installed by The Right Reverend Michael G. Smith Assistant Bishop of the Diocese of Albany.

Thank you all for the prayers for Michael the week before. Certainly a blessing to our family as we gathered to Celebrate.

This Church is located in Mechanicville NY. A very Beautiful Church and a very active one in their Community. We were all welcomed by a great experience.

Doug Miller



I just wanted to thank everyone for their prayers and support leading up to and during my Cursillo weekend. It was an incredible experience. I truly felt the Holy Spirit filling my heart with love and faith. My love and appreciation to all of you.

-Val Hill

I want to age like sea glass.  
Smoothed by tides,  
but not broken.  
I want my hard edges to soften.  
I want to ride the waves  
and go with the flow.  
I want to catch a wave  
and let it carry me  
to where I belong.  
I want to be picked up  
and held gently by

those who delight in my  
well earned patina and  
appreciate the changes I went  
through to achieve that beauty.  
I want to enjoy the journey  
and always remember that if  
you give the ocean something  
breakable it will turn it into  
something beautiful.  
I want to age like sea glass.  
~Bernadette Nol

Conversation with God  
(Author Unknown)

Me: God, can I ask You a question?

God: Sure.

Me: Promise You won't get mad?

God: I promise.

Me: Why did You let so much stuff happen to me today?

God: What do you mean?

Me: Well, I woke up late.

God: Yes.

Me: My car took forever to start.

God: Okay.

Me: At lunch they made the wrong sandwich, and I had to wait.

God: Hmmmmmm.

Me: On my way home, my phone went DEAD, just as I picked up a call.

God: All right.

Me: And to top it all off, I just wanted to soak my feet in my new foot massager & relax, BUT it wouldn't work!!! Nothing went right today! Why did You do that?

God: Let me see, the death angel was at your bed this morning, and I had to send one of My angels to battle him for your life. I let you sleep through that.

Me (humbled): Oh

God: I didn't let your car start because there was a drunk driver on your route that would have hit you, if you were on the road.

Me: (ashamed)

God: The first person who made your sandwich today was sick & I didn't want you to catch what they had. I knew you couldn't afford to miss work.

Me (embarrassed): Okay

God: Your phone went dead because the person that was calling was going to give false witness about what you said on that call; I didn't even let you talk to them so you would be covered.

Me (softly): I see God.

God: Oh, and that foot massager, it had a short that was going to throw off all the power in your house tonight. I didn't think you wanted to be in the dark.

Me: I'm sorry God.

God: Don't be sorry, just learn to Trust Me.... in ALL things, the Good and the Bad.

Me: I will trust You!

God: And don't doubt that My plan for your day is ALWAYS BETTER than your plan.

Me: I won't God. And let me tell you, God, Thank You for EVERYTHING today!

God: You're welcome child. It was just another day being your God, and I LOVE looking after My Children.....



## Upcoming Issue of Evangelist

### September 2023 (have articles in by Labor Day)

Deadline for articles will be two days prior to these dates. We appreciate all of the articles that were given to us and look forward to the many more that will be shared in the future. If you see little stories, jokes, etc that you'd like to share. Please send them at any time to Colette in her email. Please write in the subject area that it is for the newsletter.

ENJOY!! Colette Coppola Editor

THANK YOU EVERYONE FOR YOUR CONTRIBUTIONS THIS MONTH!

St. John's Episcopal Church  
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Bishop: The Rt. Rev. Dr. DeDe Duncan Probe  
Rector: The Very Rev. Arthur "Nick" Smith  
Office Manager: Kelly Brown  
Parish Administrator: Peter Slaunwhite

Treasurer: Jack MacMullen  
Clerk of the Vestry: Colette Coppola  
Senior Warden: Gloria Wilkins  
Junior Warden: Val Hill

#### Vestry Members

Sandra Aylesworth  
Kellie Highers

Suzanne Bauer  
Stan Janczuk

Kelly Brown  
Doug Miller

Garry Hirst  
Leanne Youngkrans

Ann Hodgins

Loving God, by your grace you have gathered us from many walks of life to become a loving family at St. John's. Help us to sustain the miraculous love within this parish, and guide us in sharing this love with our neighbors. All this we ask through our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ, Amen.