

MINISTRY MATTERS

- IN THE CONGREGATION AND BEYOND -

SUPPLY PASTOR SCHEDULE

November 7: Pastor Chip Fairchild -
Communion
November 14: : Pastor David Werley -
Communion
November 21: Pastor Chip Fairchild -
Communion
November 28

ALTAR FLOWERS FOR NOVEMBER

This month's altar flowers are placed to the
Glory of God and:

November 7 – In loving memory of Tom
Kushner

November 14 – In loving memory of Pricilla I.
Mundie by her children

November 21 – In loving memory of Rocco J.
Russo by his family

November 28 – In memory of Hilda & Willard
Wenner & deceased children

***THE NEW 2022 FLOWER CHART is now in the
St. Stephen's room.**

PRAYER REQUEST/CONCERN

If you have a Prayer Request/Concern, contact
Kim Deliman. Please provide the following
information: The person/people, causes, and
concerns in need of prayers. Prayer Circle
would like to keep up to date to fulfill the needs
of the church, community, and world in which
we live.

Request/Concern to be communicated:

I request prayers for:

Name: _____

Concerns: _____

_____ Place on the email Prayer Chain

_____ Include in prayers during worship

_____ Contact me about my request

PRAYER CIRCLE

Prayer Circle

Prayer is powerful, especially when done
together! Are you interested in being a part of
St Johns' Prayer Circle? Anyone can participate
because you can pray anywhere on your own
time. Please contact Kim Deliman at 570-788-
4459 and leave a message with your contact
information. You will receive a list of prayer
concerns through email or by a phone call if
needed.



Prayer Requests

Requests can be submitted by leaving a
message with Kim Deliman, calling the church
office, or, filling out (all) information on the
sheet located in the St. Stephen's Room. Also,
there will be prayer request cards in the pews
with the pencils. These may be placed in with
the offering. Please list what is to be done for
the requested name, whether it is to be
included during worship, placed on the prayer
circle list, or if the person would like to be
contacted by Pastor Michele Kaufman. If
possible, please indicate the time frame the
prayer request should remain active. (Example:
indefinitely, weeks, month, etc.)

The help of the church as a whole can keep
the Prayer Circle current and enable us to fulfill
the needs of the church, community, and world
in which we live.

Matthew 21:22 And whatever you ask in
prayer, you will receive, if you have faith

SCOUTING

SCOUTS BSA and Cub Scouts Meetings are
Monday nights at the church. Scouting is open to
boys and girls ages Kindergarten through High
School. For more information, contact Jen
Cipriani at 570-578-6952.

VALLEY FOOD PANTRY



These days have been challenging, to say the least, but not so much for the challenge of supplying the **Valley Food Pantry**. Contributions have been steady even through the Pandemic. Our group of volunteers THANK YOU for your dedication to this endeavor.

THANKSGIVING is one of the three Special “giving” to our community and this year we are asked to give 60 cans of regular **EVAPORATED MILK** (not sweetened). Also, in need are any donations of **coffee** or **tea** that we could collect. Please have your donations at the church by Sunday, **November 14, 2021**. There will be a basket/box in the Narthex closet for dropping anything for that special giving. Again, THANK YOU for any and all support! You are one of God’s Blessings to our community. Gratefully, Linda Snyder

PHOTOS, PLEASE



We would love to share more photos of our activities in our church newsletter, and both photos and videos on our Facebook page and the church website (with permission). Please email to the church office at: stjohns@epix.net or you can download and message them to us through our Facebook page. Thank you!

SUNDAY SCHOOL



SUNDAY SCHOOL

Sunday School
Sunday Morning at
8:45 a.m.

Followed by 10:00
a.m. Worship Service

CDC guidelines will be followed and closely monitored moving forward with Sunday School

Dawn Klick and Sylvia Wenner continue to use the “one room schoolhouse” format for Sunday School. It is our hope that the children are enjoying themselves as they gather together to grow in their faith, learn about God’s word and express themselves. We encourage you and the kids to invite friends to join them on Sunday morning.

Introduce someone to Jesus. Reconnect with a child or family that has been missing for a while. Invite them back again. Spread the good news. Share the joy found in the promise of Jesus’ sacrifice for us. We have all kinds of friends. Some from school, some from sports, some from clubs. Let us try to make friends in faith.

The Learning Ministry Team is looking forward to an exciting 2021-2022 Sunday School year. The teachers are preparing their lessons and hoping for participation from the kids and encouragement from the parents, grandparents, and congregation. This will give the teachers a better idea on how they prepare the lessons each week. It would be wonderful to include group activities.

Submitted by Kim Deliman: LMT Chair on behalf of the LMT

Learning Ministry Team: Janet Brady, Jennifer Cipriani, Donna Cassarella, Kim Deliman, Melody Hinderer, Dawn Klick, Patty Phile

CEMETERY ASSOCIATION

To help with the upkeep, of our beautiful cemetery please consider giving a monetary donation "In Honor Of" or "In Memory Of" a loved one.

Checks can be made payable to “St. John’s Lutheran & Reformed Cemetery Association” or included with your weekly offering (please include a notation with your offering). As of October 1, 2021, the new Cemetery Secretary is Sherry Castrine. Direct any questions regarding Cemetery business to the Cemetery Association at 570-788-3662

COME BE A VOLUNTEER

Join one or several of our Church Ministry Teams that are listed on the front page! Be a part of the many opportunities these teams provide. We want and need you to join us in serving Gods calling with your time and talents to help our church continue to grow. Please contact the church office if you are interested.

NEW TEAM NAME

Stewardship team has been renamed to the **S.E.R.V.E. team**.

What is the **S.E.R.V.E. team** you might ask? Well, it stands for some of the attributes needed to care for all of God's gifts. **S.** stewardship, **E.** evangelism, **R.** response, **V.** volunteerism, **E.** encouragement.

PRAYER SHAWL MINISTRY

Prayer shawl ministry will be continuing at 9:30am at the church. We meet the first and third Wednesday of the month. All are welcome to join us, and we are willing to teach.

SECRETARY COMMUNICATIONS



Please make sure anything communicated to the secretary for the bulletin, newsletter, or anything she needs to address, has your contact information on it. Your name, phone number or email address and reason for communication.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS: On October 17th, we celebrated a day in the life of the church. Together, we may all be part of the church in action. During worship service, as a congregation, the instillation of the new members, Sherry Grenzberg, and Donna and Jim Mehalick, were welcomed into St. John's. Let us welcome them to the church family with joy.



QUILT

Quilt Donated by:

Lutheran World Relief Quilters of St. John's Ev. Lutheran Church, St. John's

We are a small group that is involved with the Lutheran World Relief organization. The LWR has many projects to help worldwide in times of need. They include: Quilts, Layettes, Health Kits, and School Kits to name a few.

Our quilt group at St. John's started in 2005, under the leadership of Lorraine Klinger. Many women have helped over the years and so far we have shipped over 800 quilts to those in need. Some of our quilts have been shipped to these countries: Angola, Georgia, India, Mali, Serbia, Tanzania and Ukraine.

We hope you enjoy the quilt.

The LWR Quilters of St. John's

SAUSAGE SUPPER

SEPT.18TH SAUSAGE & PANCAKE SUPPER

Our fall Sausage & Pancake Supper was another “drive-thru, take out” success! 562 dinners were sold which gave us a profit of over \$ 5,000.00 that will go into the building fund.

We had a crack crew of seasoned volunteers that did a fabulous job. They prepared the home-made coleslaw, cleaned & wrapped 600 potatoes, baked over 100 dozen chocolate chip cookies, mixed up and flipped the specially prepared pancakes, cooked can after can of green beans along with packing all the applesauce and condiments.

Let's not forget the guys in the kitchen, who prepared our famous sausage. They manned the ovens and made sure the sausage was temp-tested and of course, TASTE-TESTED to perfection. (You have to wonder how many samples it really takes!!!!)

Thank you to all our hard-working volunteers and everyone who purchased dinners that made this a wonderful day of fellowship and a very successful event.

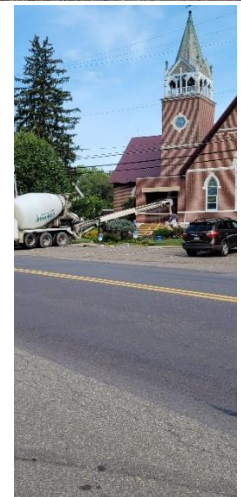


NEW STEPS

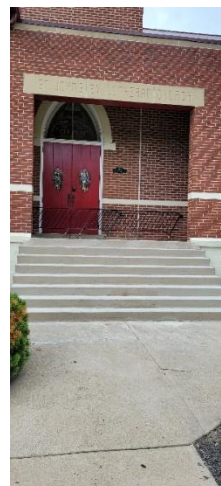
NEW STEPS CONSTRUCTED

The front steps leading into the church have now been replaced! The crumbling steps had to be jackhammered and ripped out and then new forms constructed to hold the concrete in place. It took between 9 and 10 yards of concrete to complete this job.

We give special thanks to George & Patricia Hess for donating all the concrete needed for this project in memory of the Hess and Faux family.



The steps are finished being poured and sealed. The railings are in process of being refinished and painted. Then they will need to be installed into the new concrete steps.



The construction work was done by Antonio Napoliello of Napoliello Masonry from Hazleton. The handrails will be refurbished and installed within the next few weeks by Jim Cassarella

During the Thirty Years War in Germany, Martin Rinkart served as a Lutheran pastor in the town of Eilenburg in Saxony. Eilenburg was a walled city, so it became a haven for refugees seeking safety from the fighting. But soon, the city became too crowded, and food was in short supply. Then, a famine hit and a terrible plague and Eilenburg became a giant morgue.

In one year alone, Pastor Rinkart conducted funerals for 4,500 people, including his own wife. The war dragged on; the suffering continued. Yet through it all, he never lost courage or faith and even during the darkest days of Eilenburg's agony, he was able to write the hymn, "Now Thank We All Our God."

Now thank we all our God, with hearts and hands and voices, who wondrous things hath done, In whom the world rejoices ... So keep us in His grace, and guide us when perplexed, and free us from all ills, in this world and the next.

Even when he was waist deep in destruction, Pastor Rinkart was able to lift his sights to a higher plane. He kept his mind on God's love when the world was filled with hate. He kept his mind on God's promises of heaven when the earth was a living hell. Can we not do the same - we whose lives are almost trouble-free, compared with the man who wrote that hymn?

Whom can you say "thank you" to? As you look back on your life, who are the people who helped you along the way? Who are the people near and dear to you who are helping you today, the people in your own home or family, the very people you might be taking for granted? I tell you: there is no such thing as a "self-made individual" Everyone has people to thank for helping them in their living day to day.

We have a lot to be thankful for and a lot of "thank yous" to give away, when we think about our lives like that. We also have a larger lesson to remember - a larger reason to give thanks -- because every time we receive a gift of caring or concern from someone else, we receive that gift from God.

That friendly smile from the stranger, the cheerful service at the checkout, the doctor who goes out of her way to make you feel at ease, the loved one who makes an important sacrifice for you: these and a hundred other kindnesses are all examples of the love and kindness of God. They are all reasons for us to "Thank We All Our God," because God expresses His love to us through the love of others.

Let us pray...Most loving and generous God, who continues to pour Your blessings upon us even though we rarely can deserve them, help us to live more fully as persons with thankful hearts. Do not let us be blind to the kindnesses of others, or Your own kindnesses in our lives. Make us eager to give as much or more kindness in return. Do not let us become so familiar with friends and family and loved ones that we take their thoughtfulness for granted. Help us to notice and give thanks each day for the many people who bless our lives. Through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

PRESIDENTS DESK

Hi Folks,

Sadly, one of our members tested positive for COVID this past week. The individual is at home and self-quarantining. Those members that were in close contact were notified and are showing no symptoms at present. Please keep those individuals in your prayers. Also, members were informed of the positive test as they entered the church for the Service and Congregational meeting.

Welcome to are newest members: Sherry Grenzberg, Donna and Jim Mehalick who were accepted into our church on October 17, 2021.

During the Congregational meeting, the vote to repair the steeple was unanimous. The contractor will be notified, and a date will be set to start repairs.

Unfortunately, with the COVID issue and after talking with the Executive members of Council along with Pastor Kaufman, I decided to cancel the luncheon planned for after the meeting. The Stewardship Committee has been renamed S.E.R.V.E. Stewardship. Evangelism. Response. Volunteer. Encourage. Stay tuned for new information on a new date. Please fill out a Time and Talents sheet if you haven't already, sheets are available in the back of the St. Stephen's room.

Anyone interested in starting an adult Bible study please sign up in the back of the church.

Council approved the request from the Worship and Music Committee to have the choir for Christmas and Communion with wine and bread at the altar.

The mason work on the front steps and sidewalk was completed. We are waiting on the handrails to be finished being repainted and installed before using them.

Bosco's Friends Helping Friends Day is Wednesday, October 20th. The passes are \$5.00 each.

Our fundraiser for Kaylee Barbush is ongoing. Please put your donation in an envelope with "Attn. Kaylee" in the offering box.

The Church Secretary hours are being changed to; Monday - Thursday 8:00 am - 1:00 pm starting October 25, 2021.

Council Discussed at length on posting our church service on Facebook. While there were many advantages to doing so, there were just as many disadvantages. It was decided that for now we are not moving forward with this.

Godspeed,

Don Jr.



AMAZON SMILE



We are reminding our members, and their families and friends to participate in the AmazonSmile program. There is no cost to participate. To participate enter the website below:



smile.amazon.com



Just a reminder that the AmazonSmile program is always a way to do online shopping which benefits our church.

- a. If you are a member of AmazonSmile and have an organization already chosen to which your donations presently go to, you can change the organization to our church by selecting *Change* which is located by your present organization. You can then select our church (see below).
- b. Depending on your computer or phone, you can find Amazon Smile by either selecting the 3 bars by the Amazon logo and scroll down until you find AmazonSmile, or you can select to See All Programs, and scroll until you see AmazonSmile. Select AmazonSmile.

To search for our organization, enter St Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church.

You will see a listing of churches with this name. Scroll down until you find:

St Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church

Location: Saint Johns, PA

You will select our church as your charitable organization, and you may begin shopping. If your purchase is eligible for the 0.5% donation, you will be able to see the amount of your charitable donation once the purchases have shipped.

Keep in mind that this fundraising event is ongoing and has no expiration date.

If you need assistance or help in setting up your purchases for AmazonSmile to benefit our church, feel free to contact the church office. **HAPPY SHOPPING!**

OUR CHURCH CONTINUES TO LIVE THROUGH THE COVID PANDEMIC. PHYSICAL DISTANCING HAS CHANGED THE WAY WE WORSHIP AND SERV, BUT THE NEED IS GREAT, AND GOD'S CHURCH IS AT WORK.

