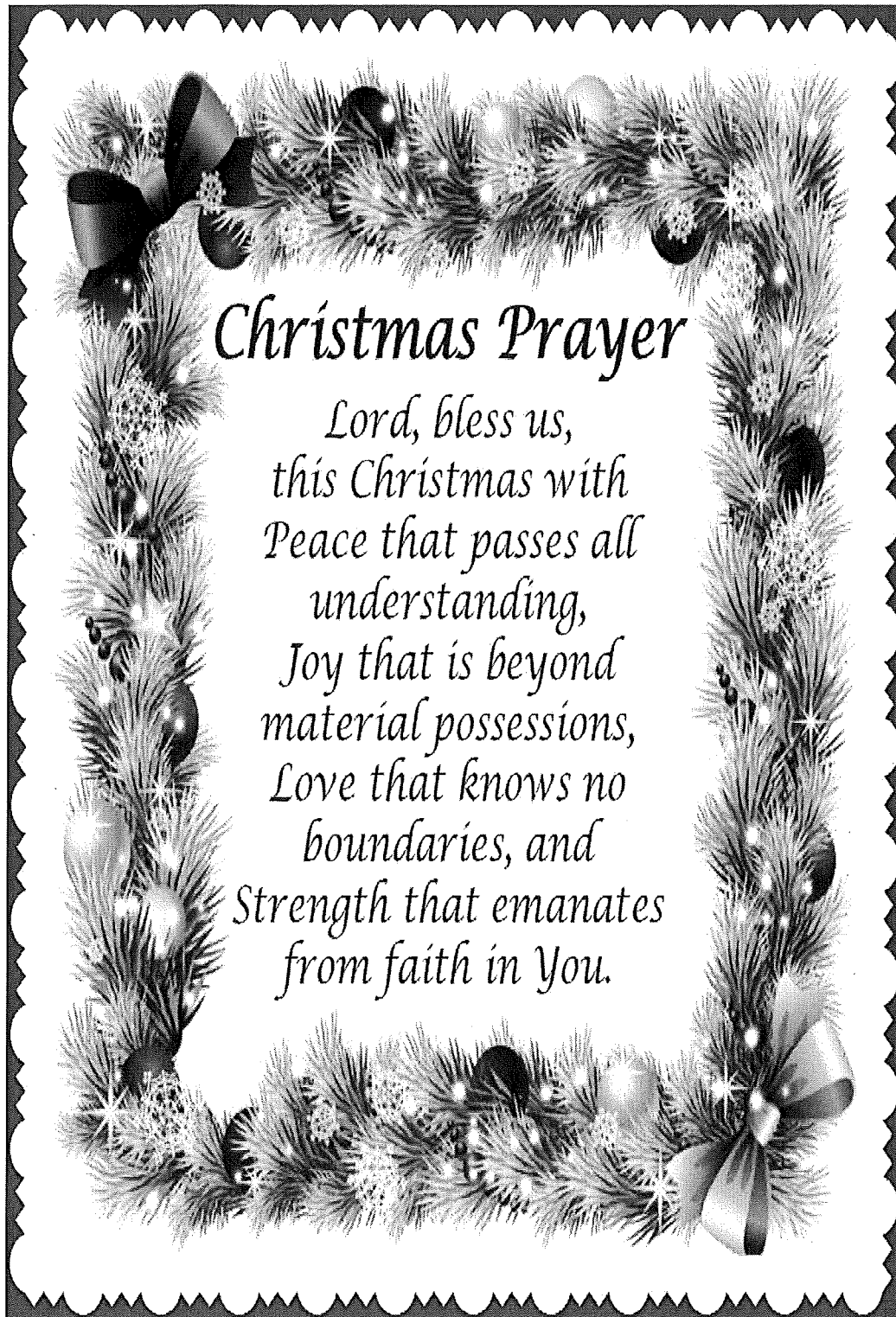


December 2022 Newsletter

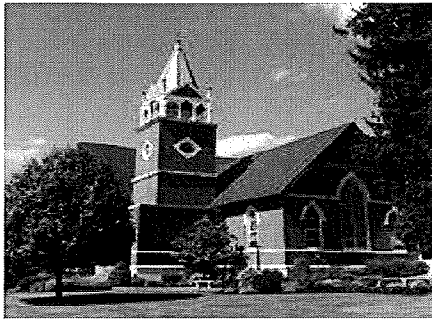


Christmas Prayer

*Lord, bless us,
this Christmas with
Peace that passes all
understanding,
Joy that is beyond
material possessions,
Love that knows no
boundaries, and
Strength that emanates
from faith in You.*

“On Wings Like Eagles”

...but those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength
They shall mount up with *wings like eagles*,
They shall run and not be weary, they shall walk and not faint.
Isaiah 40:31



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
PO Box 2, 772 St. Johns Road
Saint Johns, PA 18247

Church Office Phone Number: 570.788.2685
Email: stjohns@epix.net
Facebook: [SJELC.StJohnsPA](https://www.facebook.com/SJELC.StJohnsPA)
Website: www.sjlutheran.org

Pastor Designate: Reverend Michele Kaufman
Organist: Arlene Poltrock
Church Secretary: Rose Fox
Phone: 570-788-2685

Office Hours: M-W 9 am to 1 pm; F – 9 am to 12 pm

Our Purpose

(Our sense of what God is calling us to be and do in the mission of the Church)
God's purpose for our congregation is to be a Christ-centered community, glorifying God and sharing the gospel and blessings with our neighbors.

Sunday Mornings

Youth Sunday School 8:45 am
Coffee Hour following Worship first Sunday of the month

Catechism Classes

Catechism Classes for youth in grades 6, 7, and 8th grades is available.
Parents and P. Kaufman agree to a schedule that is compatible for all.

All are invited to join us for our worship/fellowship opportunities

Contact Information

Pastor Michele Kaufman – Pastor Designate

Phone Number: 570-881-2371

If you have a pastoral need such as a request for a hospital visit, pastoral care need, or spiritual counseling, please contact P. Kaufman.

For other requests such as a baptism, funeral, or wedding, please contact the church office @ 570.788.2685. If necessary, please leave a message including your full name, phone number, the reason for your call, and the best time to contact you.

2022 Church Council Officers/Members

Melody Hinderer – President	Janet Brady
– Vice President	Jim Cassarella
Carolyn Kuehn – Secretary	Kim Deliman
Donna Cassarella – Assistant Secretary	Jan Jacobus
Jennifer Cipriani – Treasurer	Sheila Maslo
Sherry Grenzberg – Assistant Treasurer	

Church Ministries – See Calendar for Scheduled Meetings/Events

Finance Team – To be named, Chairperson

Knot-A-Quilt – Theresa Steinman

Lay Eucharistic Ministry Team: Melody Hinderer, Judy Mundie

Learning Ministry Team: Kim Deliman, Chairperson

Lutheran Church Women (LCW): Mary Ellen Sims, President

Prayer Circle Ministry: Kim Deliman, Chairperson

Prayer Shawl Ministry: Peggy Hawk

Property Team: Jim Cassarella, Chairperson

S.E.R.V.E. Ministry: Donna Cassarella, Melody Hinderer, Co-Chairpersons

Worship and Music Ministry Team: Arlene Poltrock, Chairperson

We offer many opportunities for ministry. If interested, please contact the church office, a council member, or the chairperson(s) listed above.

Our Guiding Principles #1

We proclaim Jesus as our Lord and Savior.

From Pastor Michele Kaufman

And so it begins, the season of Advent, a time of preparation, a time of going toward the coming again of the Messiah, a time of great expectation and great anticipation. But exactly what is it that we anticipate? What are we getting ready for? What do we expect to happen? Do we anticipate the end of the world, as some religious cults always do at this time of the year? Are we preparing our hearts and spirits to receive again the coming, the coming of the Christ child into the world?

Advent has nothing to do with the number of shopping days left until Xmas. With the hanging of the greens, the placement of the poinsettias, the lighting of the first Advent candle – all these invite us to dream dreams of a better world, to allow expectant visions that have nothing to do with sugar-plum fairies to dance in our heads. Advent invites us to fill the cup of today with a full measure of tomorrow.

The way we see Advent and Christmas will determine our approach to the celebration. Is the essential work of Advent hanging decorations or is it more about opening our lives to the coming Christ and learning to live in peace? Will Christmas come only if we do all the right things to get ready for it? Or, is Christmas a gift from God that arrives whether we're ready for it or not?

We need to get our lives in order or we will miss the whole thing. The truth of the matter is that God's entrance into our lives in the person of Jesus Christ occurs at God's initiative and not ours. Christ arrives in our midst not as a reward for our careful preparation for his coming, but as a result of the love and compassion of God. Christ comes to us whether we're ready or not. The truth of the matter is that God's entrance into our lives in the person of Jesus Christ occurs at God's initiative and not ours. Christ arrives in our midst not as a reward for our careful preparation for his coming, but as a result of the love and compassion of God. Christ comes to us whether we're ready or not. Matthew describes the gift of the season of Advent with a single word, my personal favorite of all the "Christmas words" – Emmanuel, God with us. Not God HAS BEEN with us; not God WILL BE with us; but God WITH us, right now, TODAY!

CHRISTMAS CHURCH SERVICES
CHRISTMAS EVE DECEMBER 24 with HOLY COMMUNION
and CHRISTMAS DAY DECEMBER 25th



Please join us for our Christmas Eve Service on Saturday, December 24th as we celebrate the joy of our Christ's birth.

Pastor Chip Fairchild will be presiding and Communion will be celebrated.

Special music will begin at 7 pm, followed by the worship service at 7:30 pm.



We will be celebrating the birth of Jesus Christ on Sunday, Christmas Day with a service of Lessons and Carols.

Service will begin at 10 am. Pastor Mel Mundie will be presiding.

There will be no communion.

Highlights from the Church Council Meeting November 10, 2022

Excused Absences: Janet Brady Unexcused Absence: Sherry Grenzberg

Council minutes from October 13, 2022, approved.

Treasurer's Report for October 2022 approved.

Pastor's Report/Mileage: Sept 2022 Mileage 307 miles and 21.25 hours approved. Oct 2022 Mileage 144 miles and 13.25 hours. Sept and Oct reports approved.

Team Reports

Worship Team: P. Chip Fairchild will be our supply pastor for the Christmas Eve service. P. Mel Mundie will be our supply pastor for the Christmas Day service.

SERVE Team:

- 37 Boscov's vouchers sold; profits went to the Mundie Fund.
- Member directory is still being worked on.
- Future plans: create a children's library and an adult library, also video rentals.
- Possible ideas for 2023: art show, provide a meal for first responders, show movies, health fair, thank you dinner for the cemetery workers.
- **Team Meeting for all church teams scheduled for Jan 10th @ 6:30. All chairpersons and members are invited to attend and discuss plans for the first quarter of the year.**
- January 8th coffee hour sponsor.

Property Team:

- Sausage Supper was a success, profits go to the Building Fund.
- Mountain Top Paving plan to pave handicap area on Tuesday, Nov. 15th.
- Council will ask Frank Costello to come to the council meeting in December to discuss cemetery issues.
- Extra hand sanitizers are in the closet area by the front door.

LCW:

- Congregation Christmas Dinner is Dec 4th @ 12:30 at Tom's Kitchen. Members MUST prepay by Nov. 27th, costs per person is \$ 15.00. Children will be half-price. Please contact Mary Ellen Sims if you would like to attend the dinner. Menu: salad, rolls and butter, roast beef, turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetable, dessert (cookies), coffee, and tea. The LCW will pay for the desserts, taxes, and tip.

Finance Team:

- Chairperson needed. Budget meeting scheduled for Nov 15th at 6:30. 2023 proposed budget to be presented to church council at Dec 8th council meeting.

Carillon Team: No report

Old Business:

- Parochial report is due.
- IPAD for organ is not working.
- UCC will not participate in a joint Christmas Eve service.
- Lockbox will be closed as soon as it is feasible for the bank.
- Scouts are still interested in building a pavilion, they want our church to help with the funding. Scouts need to present a proposal of costs. A scout leader has offered to purchase a new TV for Luther Hall.
- Anchor church will not be moving forward, not everyone is on board with this concept.
- Advent Giving: **Monetary donations are also accepted for any of the Sundays below.**
Nov 27th: White Gifts for St. Luke's Manor (Kleenex, socks, perfume, lotion, etc.)

Continuation from Church Council Meeting

Dec 4th: Salvation Army – NEW hats, scarves, gloves for adults and children. Need someone to take items to Salvation army on Dec 5th.

Dec 11th: Head Start – new toys

Dec 18th: Donations to the Cemetery Fund

New Business:

- Newsletter articles due Nov 15th, newsletter will be mailed on Nov 21st.
- Hanging of the Greens – Dec 11th after the church service.
- Tree decorating – Dec 18th, after the church service.
- Nominating team (Jennifer Cipriani, Donna Cassarella, and Jan Jacobus) will oversee the ballots for council seats that will be available for 2023. There will be six open seats: Four – 3-year terms, One – 2-year term, One – 1 year term. Nominating ballots will be distributed the first three weeks in December before the church service. Jennifer Cipriani and Kim Deliman have served two full terms (6 years) and cannot be re-elected for 2023.
- **Annual reports are due by January 8th, 2023.**
- **Annual Congregation Meeting, January 29th, after the church service.**
- **The Boy Scouts will be selling Wreaths Across America for Christmas on Dec 17th at Noon. Channel 16 will be here to cover this event. First responders, Valley Regional fire truck will be here, members of our armed forces will be present to place wreaths on the graves of our veterans.**
- Thank you to Jennifer Cipriani for setting up a Zoom meeting for the Billig family to observe our All Saints Sunday worship service online from Florida.
- Nadine Sauer has a Xmas tree for our church.
- Divine Providence – Donna Cassarella will be taking over the meal planning for Divine Providence. Needs help with planning and preparing meals.

Next council meeting is December 8th @ 7 pm, meeting adjourned at 8:33 pm, closed meeting by praying the Lord's Prayer.

Supply Pastor Schedule

December 4 – Pastor Melvin Mundie
December 11 – Pastor Chip Fairchild
December 18 - Pastor Chip Fairchild
December 24 – Pastor Chip Fairchild
December 25 – Pastor Melvin Mundie

Altar Flowers

In Loving Memory of Hilda & Willard Wenner and
deceased family members of Don & Betty Wenner
In Memory of Gene E. Mundie by family
In Memory of James J. Mundie, Jr. by family
In Honor of the birth of Jesus, Our Lord, and Savior
In Honor of the birth of Jesus, Our Lord, and Savior

Bulletin Sponsor for December 4th, 11th and 18th

In Loving Memory of our father, Dale Schell, and In Honor of our mother, Lorraine Schell
by Schell and Howley Families.

December Birthday and Baptism Celebrations

We publish these celebrations with permission and information given by our members. If your celebration is missing from our list, please call the church secretary with the information and your information will be updated. Thank you!



December 5 – Connie Barbush
December 12 – Lindford Kuehn, Sr.
December 19 – Mason Floyd
December 25 – Barry Schell
December 30 – Shelia Maslo
December 30 – Colyn Smith



December 2 – Emily Barbush
December 7 – David Cunfer

Bulletin Sponsors

Church members have the opportunity to sponsor our weekly church bulletins for 2023. Sponsorship is full for the rest of 2022! The cost for one week is \$10.00. Available Dates Chart and forms are available in the St. Stephen's room. Please fill out the form along with your check payable to St. John's Lutheran Church and return it to Rose Fox, our church secretary.



Monthly Coffee Hour

The December Coffee hour will not be celebrated due to the Annual Congregational Christmas Dinner on the same day. The next coffee hour will be held on January 8th.

Worship Service Volunteers Needed



Since the Covid restrictions have been lifted, we are reverting back to our "normal" worship services which include coming forward for communion and offering collection. There is a sign-up sheet in the St. Stephen's room for volunteers to fill the following responsibilities for our Sunday worship services:

Head Usher/Building Attendant, Assistant Minister/Wine Pourer, Altar Guild (fold bulletins, etc.), Altar Guild (set up the altar for communion, etc.), Greeters, Crucifer (if needed), Acolyte, Communion Bread Provider, Bring Wine and Bread forward, Communion Ushers, Collection Ushers.

If you have any questions about any of the responsibilities above, please see a council member. We need volunteers in all areas, thank you.

Luther Hall

As a member of our congregation, Luther Hall is available to you if you need a place to hold a function such as a birthday party, baptism celebrations, first communion celebrations, confirmation celebrations, anniversary parties, and funeral dinners. For non-members, our hall is available for certain functions (funeral dinners not included) and there may be a fee depending on the usage of the hall (kitchen, etc.). All requests from members or non-members will have to be approved by the church council. If you are interested in reserving Luther Hall, please contact Jim Cassarella or Melody Hinderer.



Church Member Directory

There have been many requests to publish a church member directory. Our last directory is outdated and much of our member's information has changed. Our church secretary, Rose Fox, will be contacting our members to get permission to have your information published. The information we are seeking is a current mailing address, current phone number, and email. We will not publish any information that you do not want published. As before, our directory will only be given to our members to use for sending cards for lifetime events such as birthdays, anniversaries, etc. This will be a time-consuming project and if you want to call the church office and give your information before Rose calls you, please do so as that will move this project along more quickly. Thank you for your cooperation.

Help Wanted

Our church provides a nourishing evening meal once a month for the Divine Providence Homeless Shelter in Hazleton. We are in need of someone that would work with Donna in organizing the volunteers to make the dinner and the delivery of it to the shelter. It's only once each month on the 3rd Saturday for their 7:00 pm meal. Please contact: Donna Cassarella @ 570-436-2168 (S.E.R.V.E. Team Outreach Initiative)

Can You Help?



Valley Food Pantry

The food pantry feeds, on average 13-14 families weekly and 56-60 families for special holiday boxes. We are so blessed to have such a great community that helps restore our distribution needs; (including the Boy Scouts along with their parents that work tirelessly to keep our shelves stocked). Thank you again!





Prayer Circle

"At this Christmas when Christ comes, will He find a warm heart? Mark the season of Advent by loving and serving the others with God's own love and concern.

- Mother Teresa

The holidays can be difficult for some people. It is not always a time for celebration. Take the time to reach out to someone in need. Share a smile, hug, or kind word with them. Invite them to church. You never know how one small act can impact a day or a life for someone. Say a prayer for the suffering as well as the rejoicing. If you have a prayer request for yourself, someone else, or would like to join the Prayer Circle to receive the list of prayer concerns; Please contact Kim Deliman at 570-788-4459. Leave a message with your contact information, prayer request and if possible, the duration the prayer request will be needed. (Example: week(s), month(s), indefinitely etc.) Let me know what is to be done for the requested name, whether it is to be included in the bulletin, placed on the prayer circle list, or if the person would like to be contacted by Pastor Michele Kaufman. You may also call the church office or, sign the Prayer Request list located on the table in the St. Stephen's Room. With your help, the members of the church can keep the Prayer Circle current and enable us to fulfill the needs of the church, community, and the world in which we live. * Please keep me informed when a name can be removed from the Prayer List.

* Ephesians 6:18 And pray in the Spirit on all occasions with all kinds of prayers and requests. With this in mind, be alert and always keep on praying for all the Lord's people.



"I Heard the Bells"



Sight and Sound have produced a Christmas film called "I Heard the Bells". There are only certain movie theaters in our area that will be showing this film nationwide. The closest theater in our area is in Moosic and there will only be three available dates: December 1, 3rd and 4th beginning at 7 pm. The movie is 1 hour and 50 minutes. You may reserve a seat online@cinemark.com, tickets are \$ 12.50. If interested in attending and would need a ride, please call the church office. If you are willing to drive, please call the church office as well.

The movie is a true story behind the Christmas carol and its author, Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. Henry's family life is torn apart due to the Civil War. Due to Henry's grief, he wrote this song as he discovers renewed hope of rekindled faith.



Advent Season begins November 27th

Below is the list for our Advent Giving. Monetary donations are accepted. Make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church. In the memo section, state which organization you are giving a donation to.

Do not wrap the donations.

December 4th: Salvation Army: (NEW) Gloves, hats, and scarves for men, women, and children

December 11th: Head Start: Books, games, toys, socks, sweatshirts, and sweatpants suitable for children ages 3 & 4

December 18th: Monetary donations to St. John's Cemetery (make checks payable to St. John's Lutheran Church)

Congregation Christmas Dinner – December 4th

All members are invited to the Congregation Christmas Dinner on December 4th at 12:30 pm at Tom's Kitchen.

Members **MUST** prepay by November 27th.

Your reservation will not be made without prepayment.

The cost is \$ 15.00 per adult and \$ 7.50 per child.



If you plan to attend, please contact Mary Ellen Sims after the church services on Sunday or call 570-788-2866.

The menu is: salad, rolls, and butter, roast beef, turkey, ham, mashed potatoes, stuffing, gravy, vegetable, dessert (cookies), coffee, and tea.

To offset the cost LCW will pay for the desserts, taxes, and tip.

**Please join us for this time of fellowship as we celebrate the
"Reason for the Season"**

Ecumenical Blue Christmas Worship Service

Conyngham Methodist Church will be hosting an Ecumenical Blue Christmas Service sponsored by the Valley Interfaith Council. Pastor Graham Truscott (Methodist Church) and Pastor Deb Staniszewski (Christ Lutheran Church) will conduct the service. The date and time have not been set, it will be announced in the weekly bulletin.





Church Council Nominations for 2023

The nominating ballots for church council will be distributed the first three Sundays in December prior to the start of the church service.

A – Positions to be filled by election at congregational meeting, January 29, 2023: 4 (four) three-year terms, 1 (one) two-year term, and 1 (one) one-year term

B – Members continuing on Church Council: The following persons currently serve on the Church Council.

Term Expiring Jan 2024

Janet Brady

Jan Jacobus

Carolyn Kuehn

Term Expiring Jan 2025

*Donna Cassarella – 2nd Term

*Jim Cassarella – 2nd Term

Sherry Grenzberg

C – Jennifer Cipriani and Kim Deliman are NOT ELIGIBLE to be elected, as they have completed a second consecutive term on council (The congregational constitution stipulates that no one may serve more than two full terms consecutively – C12.02.).

Otherwise, any voting member of the congregation (confirmed member, who has communed and has made a contribution of record during the current or preceding year), is 18 years of age or older, may be elected (St. John's constitution, chapter 12).

Please consider serving on council if asked. Council meets once a month unless circumstances warrant other meetings. If you have any questions about serving, please ask.

Annual Reports

Team chairpersons and other leaders are asked to submit their reports covering the year 2022 **no later than January 8th** so that they can be included in the bulletin of reports to be distributed ahead of the annual congregational meeting. Your reports can be emailed to the church or placed in the secretary's mailbox outside the office.

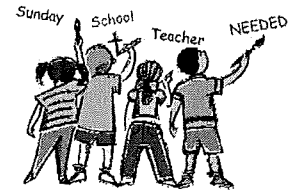


Joint Teams Meeting – January 10th



All Team Chairpersons will be meeting to work on coordinating the Church calendar on January 10th at 2:30 pm at the Church. Be prepared to cover the next 3-4 months. This is to help prevent overlaps or scheduling conflicts. We will also be discussing how to help each other's Teams be more effective and provide better support for each other's projects or events. There were excellent suggestions received from the August 27th Congregation Luncheon meeting that we would like to consider incorporating. ***Please bring a list of all the members of your team and their contact numbers.***

Will you answer the call?



Learning Ministry is facing a challenge and we need your help. We have been struggling to keep the Youth Sunday School Program going this year. We still do not have a teacher. Sunday School is being covered by volunteers on a month-to-month basis. It is with regret and sadness that we made the decision not to offer Sunday School in January and February. We are hoping to take this time to regroup and move forward with plans for the future. In Order to start SS back up in March, we need volunteers to help us support the children with their classes. Sunday School runs until the end of May. That means we still need to cover three months of instruction. Prayerfully consider giving your time to the kids on a weekly or monthly basis. Team up with someone if you are not comfortable doing it alone. Any help would be greatly appreciated. It isn't necessary to figure out lesson plans. We have an easy curriculum available to use and explore together. Weekly, monthly or permanent volunteer would be a blessing. It is so important for the children to have a strong foundation in their faith and that begins with Sunday School. Will you answer that calling? The Learning Ministry also discussed the possibility of moving lessons to a weeknight. The thought was that maybe someone would be available to lead the children at a different time, thus opening up the possibility for volunteers and children to grow in faith. This was just an idea we discussed. Again, this option would depend on volunteers. We would welcome any thoughts and input on changing to a weeknight. Would we have more volunteers / more children able to come? We do not know. Our SS group is small in numbers but not small in the need to continue growing through instruction and fun. We are open to any suggestions on how to make this happen. If you feel you can help us in this matter, please reach out to the Learning Ministry team: Kim Deliman (chairperson), Jennifer Cipriani, Donna Cassarella, Melody Hinderer, Patty Phile

HOLIDAY SHOPPING OPPORTUNITIES THAT CAN BENEFIT OUR CHURCH



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.
- c. To search for our organization, enter St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church. You will see a listing of churches with this name. Scroll down until you find:

St John's 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.





Looking for Mother's Helper for Son, Jacob

Wed. & Thurs 3 pm to 5 pm
Friday 1 pm to 5 pm
Saturday 10 am to 2 pm

Please call or text Steph at 856-364-0439

*Household has a cat

Upcoming **COMMUNITY EVENTS**

Christmas Crystal Sale

Christ Church, United Church of Christ, 460 Main Street, Conyngham is having a Crystal Sale for \$12.00 per box. Orders are due by Dec. 4th and the pick-up date is Saturday, Dec. 17th between 10 am to 12 pm.

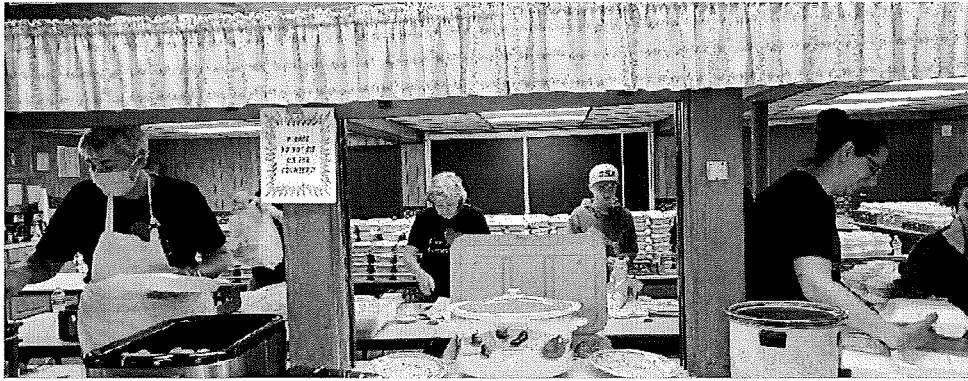
Pull around the rear of the church for pick up.

Contact Barbara @ 570-788-3246 or Rosemary @ 570-454-3018 to order.

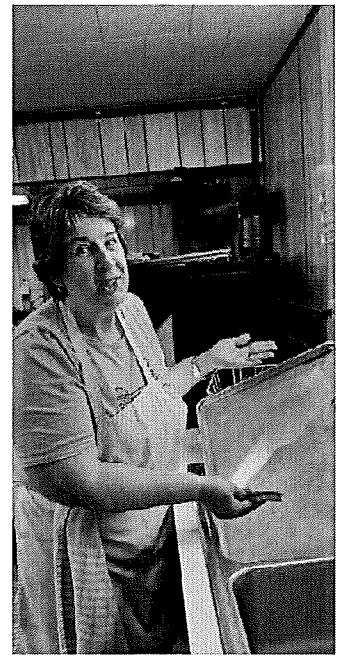
Valley Community Dinner

Plans are being made for a second Community Dinner Event sponsored by the Valley Interfaith Council of Churches on or around Valentine's Day; sometime in February. A future meeting is set up to get things moving to complete the information needed. The Fall Community Dinner was very well received.





Janet Brady, Betty Wenner, Devin Cipriani, Jen Cipriani, and Korrie Cipriani are putting dinners together.

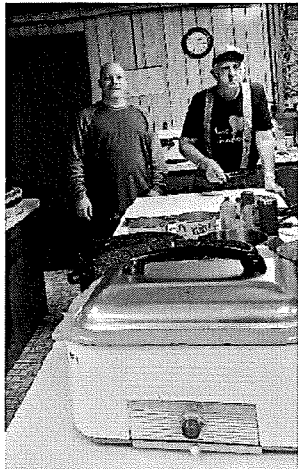


Melody Hinderer cleaning greasy pans...Well, somebody's got to do it!

Sausage and Pancake Supper

Another year that our Sausage and Pancake Supper was a success, over 560 dinners were sold! The supper has been a signature event for our church and community for over 40 years using the famous Wenner Families sausage recipe.

Thank you to all the volunteers who helped pull this off. We had some new young recruits that came to help and did a wonderful job. We could not have done this without those who bought and sold tickets and those who donated. We are looking forward to our spring supper which will be held in April.



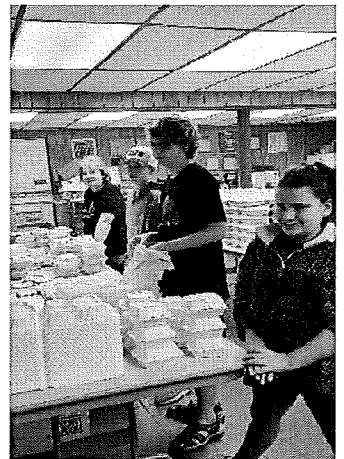
Dave Leitner and Don Wenner Sr. are in the kitchen baking sausage.



Sylvia Wenner, Debbie Koslop and Austun flipping pancakes.



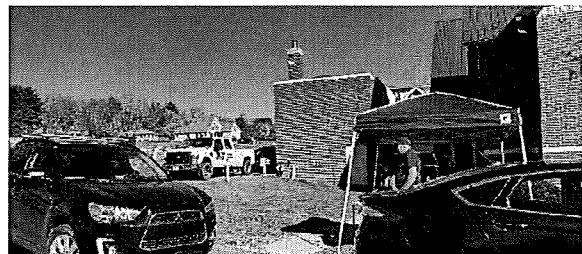
Jim Cassarella and Pastor Melvin Mundie are cooking green beans.



Betty Wenner, Devin Cipriani, Lucas Leitner, and Korrie Cipriani are packing dinners.



Ava Leitner taking tickets and delivering dinners.



Jim Cassarella and Jane Krouse are checking in those lined up for the supper.

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

In December 1992 in Harrington, Maine, wreath maker Morrill Worcester found himself with a surplus of 5,000 wreaths during the holiday season. Worcester saw the surplus as an opportunity to pay tribute to our country's veterans and with the help of Maine Senator Olympia Snowe, arranged for the wreaths to be placed at Arlington National Cemetery. This annual tribute to our country's veterans has continued ever since, touching the lives of millions of veterans' families and volunteers and growing in scope through the years.



In 2007, the Worcester family along with veterans and volunteers formed the non-profit organization Wreaths Across America to continue and expand their efforts at Arlington National Cemetery and to support those around the country who wished to do the same. Wreaths Across America's mission is simple: **Remember** the fallen, **Honor** those that serve, and **Teach** the next generation about the value of freedom. Morrill's wife, Karen, has served as the organization's volunteer Executive Director since the non-profit was created and today oversees what has become a massive volunteer organization that continues to grow. In 2021 alone, Wreaths Across America and its national network of volunteers placed over 2.4 million veterans' wreaths at over 3,100 locations in all 50 U.S. states, at sea, and abroad.

This year, National Wreaths Across America day will be held on Saturday, December 17th, 2022. Locally, a ceremony will begin at noon followed by the placement of wreaths at St. John's Lutheran & Reformed Cemetery located at 772 St. John's Road where approximately 330 local veterans are laid to rest. This is open to anyone who would like to attend.

This is the first year wreaths will be placed at this location. This year our goal is to place 330 wreaths. With your generosity, we are hoping to meet this goal and ensure no veteran is forgotten. Each hand made, fresh, live wreath cost \$15 to sponsor and is made in the United States with Maine balsam. If you'd like to make a grave specific wreath sponsorship, please contact Jennifer Cipriani 570-578-6952.

On behalf of the volunteers and military families looking to honor all the veterans laid to rest at St. John's Lutheran & Reformed Cemetery and the Wreaths Across America extended family, we thank you for your consideration of this patriotic cause. I'll be in touch to determine your interest in supporting the mission to Remember, Honor, Teach.

Respectfully,

Cub Scout Pack 63
Troop 63
Troop 772

You can also order online at <https://wreathsassamerica.org/pages/167755>

Location ID: PASJLRC
Group ID: PA0596P



WREATHS *across* AMERICA

Wreath Sponsorship Form

Sponsored wreaths are placed on grave markers at state and national veterans' cemeteries, as well as at local, community cemeteries each December. For quicker processing and the convenience of paying with a credit card, debit card, Google Pay, or PayPal, wreaths may be sponsored as grave specific requests online by visiting <https://wreathscrossamerica.org/pages/167755>. If you prefer to pay with a check, please complete this form and mail it along with your check to the address in the box on the right. Thank you for your support!

Name: _____
 Address: _____
 City: _____
 State: _____ Zip: _____
 Phone: _____
 Email: _____

Please make checks payable to:

Wreaths Across America

PO Box 249

Columbia Falls, ME 04623

Call 877-385-9504 with any questions.

Thank you for your sponsorship and joining us in our mission to Remember, Honor and Teach!

Sponsorship Type	Price	Quantity	Total
Individual = 1 Wreath	\$15.00		
Mailed "In Honor" card = If you wish to send a physical honor card telling someone of your sponsorship, please see "In Honor" section below. The \$2 fee is required for this mailing.	\$2.00		
Family = 4 Wreaths	\$60.00		
Small Business = 10 Wreaths	\$150.00		
Corporate = 100 Wreaths	\$1,500.00		
		Grand Total	

GRAVE SPECIFIC REQUESTS ARE NOT ACCEPTED ON THIS FORM

In Honor of:

Below, please provide email or mailing address of "In Honor of" recipient so we can notify them of your sponsorship in their honor. If you have a specific message, please write it on the back of this sheet.

Email address: _____

Mailing address: _____

In Memory of:

This name will be listed on our online memory wall. Below, please provide name, rank, branch of service and state resided.

Branch of Service: _____

Rank: _____

State: _____

Please note, **ALL** sponsored wreaths are shipped directly to the location and **NO** wreaths are sent to the individuals purchasing sponsorships.

Location ID: PAJLC Sponsorship Group ID: PA0596P

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Cash: _____ Total: _____ Date Received: _____

Total No. Checks: _____ Reconciled: _____

MO: _____

Entered: _____

GEN:

Christmas Tributes

Christmas Tributes are given to the Glory of God in celebration of the birth of our Savior. This year, you may sponsor a Christmas Tribute by purchasing poinsettias (\$7.00 each) and/or donating to Divine Providence (any amount). The poinsettias will adorn the church nave on Christmas Eve; you may take your sponsored flowers home following the service.

DONATION TO: DIVINE PROVIDENCE: \$ _____

In memory/honor of: _____

In memory/honor of: _____

In memory/honor of: _____

POINSETTIAS (6" pot with 4-6 blooms):

(Quantity) _____ X \$7.00 = (total) \$ _____

In memory/honor of: _____

In memory/honor of: _____

In memory/honor of: _____

PLEASE CHECK COLOR OF POINSETTIAS

RED _____ OR _____ WHITE _____

TOTAL SUBMITTED FOR ALL ITEMS: \$ _____

YOUR NAME (SPONSOR): _____

Please give this form with payment to Janet Brady no later than Sunday, December 11th. If you wish to mail your sponsor form and payment to the church office (P.O. Box 2, Saint Johns, Pa. 18247), it must be received by Sunday, December 11th. Additional forms are on the narthex table. Cash / or checks to: St. John's Lutheran Church.

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POINSETTIAS (6" pot with 4-6 blooms):

(Quantity) _____ X \$7.00 = (total) \$ _____

In memory/honor of: _____

In memory/honor of: _____

In memory/honor of: _____

PLEASE CHECK COLOR OF POINSETTIAS

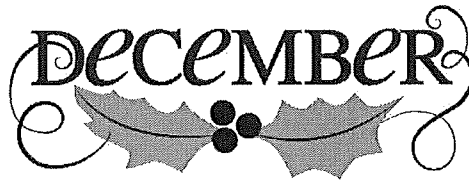
RED _____ OR _____ WHITE _____

TOTAL SUBMITTED FOR ALL ITEMS: \$ _____

YOUR NAME (SPONSOR): _____

Please give this form with payment to Janet Brady no later than Sunday, December 11th. If you wish to mail your sponsor form and payment to the church office (P.O. Box 2, Saint Johns, Pa. 18247), it must be received by Sunday, December 11th. Additional forms are on the narthex table. Cash / or checks to: St. John's Lutheran Church.

DECEMBER



- ❖ December 1st – Boy Scouts Parent/Committee Meeting;
“I Heard the Bells” film 7 pm Cinemark in Moosic, PA
- ❖ December 3rd – “I Heard the Bells” film 7 pm Cinemark in Moosic, PA

- ❖ December 4th – 2nd Sunday of Advent; Sunday School @ 8:45 am; Church @ 10 am;
Congregation Christmas Dinner @ 12:30 pm at Tom’s Kitchen;
Salvation Army Advent giving gifts are due
- ❖ December 5th – Boy Scouts @ 6 pm
- ❖ December 7th – Prayer Shawl Ministry @ 9:30 am; Choir @ 2 pm
- ❖ December 8th – Church Council Meeting @ 7 pm

- ❖ December 11th- 3rd Sunday of Advent; Hanging the Greens; Christmas Tributes due date;
Sunday School @ 8:45 am; Church @ 10 am
Head Start Advent giving gifts are due
- ❖ December 12th – Boy Scouts @ 6 pm
- ❖ December 14th – Choir @ 2 pm
- ❖ December 15th – January Newsletter Deadline
- ❖ December 17th – Boy Scouts/Wreaths Across America Ceremony @ 12 pm
Devine Providence Meal

- ❖ December 18th – 4th Sunday of Advent; Sunday School @ 8:45 am; Church @ 10 am
Monetary donations for Advent giving gifts are due
- ❖ December 19th – Boy Scouts @ 6 pm
- ❖ December 21st – Choir @ 2 pm
- ❖ December 24th – Special music @ 7 pm followed by 7:30 Christmas Eve Service

- ❖ December 25th – Lessons and Carols @ 10 am
- ❖ December 28th – Choir @ 2pm