

## Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

### 911 Emergency/GPS Location:

215 St. John Road, Elizabethtown, 17023

### For US Mail Deliveries:

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717-362-9519

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## Our Mission

*St. John congregation, responding to the call of the Holy Spirit through the Gospel, unites together to preach and teach the Word, administer the sacraments, and carry out God's mission. With God's guidance and grace, we strive to boldly proclaim by word and action the reconciling Gospel of Jesus: Working together for justice and peace, and caring for those in need in our community and world. We invite everyone to join us wherever you are on your faith journey.*

*Adopted December 8, 2013*

## Serving Today

The Rev. Thomas G. Bruner, Jr.

Pastor

Laurie Little

Young Christians Minister

Matthew Riland

Holy Communion Assistant

Tamara Spicher and Lois Watson

Holy Communion Servers

Ginny and Delmar Enders

Altar Guild Preparation

Harold and Pat Herb

Greeters

Dana Klouser

Lector, Lead Usher

Joshua Paul

Council President

For the month of August, the ***Celebrate Insert, Tree 4 Hope*** and support of one pastor for one month in the ***Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania*** is sponsored by Matt and Olivia Williard in honor of Madeline's 16<sup>th</sup> Birthday.

The ***altar flowers*** are presented to the glory of God and in honor of our many blessings by Sheila and Brian Barder.

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book in the foyer. As we celebrate our Lord's Supper, we welcome to our table all baptized Christians who have received the sacrament in their home congregations. All persons who do not yet commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. Please worship with us again and join in other congregational family activities!

## Sunday Morning Liturgy – ELW Setting 10

### God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Organ Prelude and Silent Prayer

\*Confession and Forgiveness

Pg. 94-96

Opening Hymn #712 "Lord, Whose Love in Humble Service"

\*Apostolic Greeting

Pg. 203

\*Kyrie (sung in unison)

Pg. 203

\*Hymn of Praise: "Come, let us join..." (sung in unison)

Pg. 204

Prayer of the Day

### We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Isaiah 55:1-5

Psalm: 145:8-9, 14-212

Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5

\*Gospel Acclamation (sung in unison):

**ALLELUIA! LORD AND SAVIOR: OPEN NOW YOUR SAVING WORD. LET IT BURN LIKE FIRE WITHIN US; SPEAK UNTIL OUR HEARTS ARE STIRRED. ALLELUIA! LORD WE SING FOR THE GOOD NEWS THAT YOU BRING. (Pg. 205)**

\*Gospel: Matthew 14:13-21

Response after the reading is announced: **GLORY TO YOU, O LORD.**

Response after the reading is concluded: **PRAISE TO YOU, O CHRIST.**

Sermon

### We Respond to All That God Gives Us

\*Apostles' Creed

Pg. 105

\*Prayers of the Church

\*Offertory Hymn (#182) (sung as gifts are brought forward):

**LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL LORD, AND FILL TO THE BRIM OUR CUP OF BLESSING. GATHER A HARVEST FROM THE SEEDS THAT WERE OWN, THAT WE MAY BE FED WITH THE BREAD OF LIFE. GATHER THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF ALL; UNITE THEM WITH THE PRAYERS WE OFFER NOW. GRACE OUR TABLE WITH YOUR PRESENCE AND GIVE US A FORETASTE OF THE FEAST TO COME.**

\*Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray... our Savior and Lord. All: **AMEN.**

### We Share in God's Supper

\*Great Thanksgiving (spoken):

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **WE LIFT THEM TO THE LORD.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.**

P: ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

\*We Respond in Praise (sung in unison):

**HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT, HEAV'N AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. (Pg. 207)**

\*Eucharistic Prayer:

P: ...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All Sing: **CHRIST HAS DIED. CHRIST IS RISEN. CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN. (Pg. 207)**

P: ...be all honor and glory in your Holy Church, now and forever.

All Sing: **AMEN, AMEN, AMEN. (Pg. 207)**

\*Our Lord's Prayer – traditional version on right

Pg. 208

We Partake of Our Lord's Supper (As we share in the sacrament, please join in singing the praise song "O Lamb of God" on Pg. 208)

\*Post Communion Blessing:

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

All: **AMEN**

### **God Sends Us to Share the Good News**

\*Post Communion Hymn (#204) (sung):

**THANKFUL HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE; TELL EVERYONE WHAT GOD HAS DONE. LET ALL WHO SEEK THE LORD REJOICE AND BEAR CHRIST'S HOLY NAME. SEND US WITH YOUR PROMISES AND LEAD YOUR PEOPLE FORTH IN JOY WITH SHOUTS OF THANKSGIVING. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!**

\*Post Communion Prayer:

P: Let us pray... Christ our Lord.

All: **AMEN**

\*Blessing and Dismissal:

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

All: **AMEN**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: **WE WILL! THANKS BE TO GOD!**

\*Closing Hymn #542 "O Living Bread from Heaven"

\*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

\* \* \* \* \*

\* Please stand, if able to do so.

**Today, Sunday, August 6**

- 8:45am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
- 9:30am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
- 9:30am Indoor Worship, Including Sacrament of Holy Communion (In-Person and On Zoom)
- 10:30am Items not sold during the Yard Sale will be available to congregational family members from now through 9:00 A.M. Monday. Items not claimed by this time will be donated or disposed of appropriately.

***From the end of worship until the morning of Thursday, August 17, Pastor Tom is planning time away. In his absence, Pastor Godfred Effisah will be on call one final time for any emergency needs for pastoral care. Should you need to get in touch with him, please call Fay Nichols, our Telephone Prayer Chain Coordinator, at 717-329-7447, who will both place the concern on the prayer chain and contact Pastor Godfred. Or, Pastor Godfred can be reached directly by calling 571-572-0119. For all non-emergency matters, Pastor Tom will return to the office on the morning of August 17.***

**Monday, August 7**

- 9am Tear-down and Clean-up from Yard Sale (If you are able to help, please just come directly to the pavilion.)

**Wednesday, August 9**

***Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East***

**Friday, August 11**

***Annual Outdoor Water Fun Night with Miss Laurie*** (Watch for further details from Miss Laurie about the evening, which this year will include the “dunking booth” which made its debut at our “Voices and Vittles” picnic!)

**Next Sunday, August 13**

- Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost
- 8:45am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
- 9:30am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
- 9:30am **Outdoor Worship** in the Pavilion with Guest Worship Leader Matt Williard (In-Person and On Zoom) ***(Please keep in mind that this will be an outdoor service on a Hill known for its cool breezes – be sure to dress warmly and bring a sweater or jacket!)***

**Looking Ahead**

The 2nd quarter audit will be held at the church on Monday, August 14th at 9:30 a.m. Treasurers, please have all your records at the church. Thank you. Pat Herb

Tuesday, August 15, will be the deadline to submit items for inclusion in the September ***St. John’s Epistle.***

### Book Group - Summer 2023

Join us for some light summer reading! We'll read the first 3 titles in each of these 2 series, and then we'll discuss them at an Evening Picnic on Monday, August 21, 6:30 pm in the Pavilion:

- **The Mitford Years Series** by Jan Karon (**At Home in Mitford; A Light in the Window; These High, Green Hills**)
- **The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency Series** by Alexander McCall Smith (**The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency; Tears of the Giraffe; Morality for Beautiful Girls**)

Choose to read one of the series ... or all 6 books. A few copies are available for sharing in the church library -- and more at your local public library, both physical copy and ebook. If you have questions or need to locate a book, please contact Ann ([rahbruner@gmail.com](mailto:rahbruner@gmail.com)). Everyone is welcome!

### Synodical Women's Convention Ingathering Ends Next Sunday

From July 15<sup>th</sup> until August 13<sup>th</sup>, the Women of the ELCA of St. John are doing a collection of gift cards and tangible, nonperishable food items and toiletries to donate to the food pantry at the United Lutheran Theological Seminary in Gettysburg. Gift cards from Weis, Giant, Aldi and Walmart are especially welcome, as are the following food items: **hot and cold cereals; canned vegetables; macaroni; granola bars; sugar; flour; peanut butter; spaghetti sauce; and baking mixes. Toiletry Items especially needed are: soap; shampoo/conditioner; and toothpaste.** We will be collecting these items in the Conference Room on the windowsill and the cabinet in front of the window. There will also be a basket in which to place the gift cards. Please speak with Fay Nichols, who is coordinating the collection, with any questions, and thank you for all your help!

For the month of September, sponsors are still needed for providing one month of a **Konde Diocese (in Tanzania, Africa) Pastors Salary** (\$50/month), as well as for the altar flowers for Sunday, September 17 (\$35/week). To sponsor either of these ministries in honor or in memory of loved ones or events, please either sign up in person on the bulletin board in the foyer on the south side of the entrance or, if easier, please feel free to call or email Pastor Tom, who can take care of signing you up.

We have a new location for food donations for the food pantry at the Upper Dauphin Human Services Center in Lykens. Please place those non-perishable food items on any shelf inside the north (right side, coming in the front doors) closet, where the door is labelled accordingly. As the contributions add up, deliveries will be made to the pantry by **Larry Gessner**. Thank you!

To make sure that our blessed prayer shawls get to as many folks in need of God's healing touch as possible, it is now possible for anyone from the St. John congregational family to deliver a prayer shawl to a person who is known to them to be hurting in body, mind, and/or spirit, and who would be blessed by receiving one of our shawls. To obtain a shawl, please first contact Pastor Tom, who will help you with the process. **(Please bear in mind that it is the intention of the prayer shawl ministry that each person receive just one shawl "for life", to be used in whatever time(s) of brokenness they may face.)**

Please see the bright blue container at the computer desk in the Sunday School Room to recycle your AA, AAA, C, D, 9-Volt and Button Cell batteries in Alkaline, NiMH, NiCAD, Zinc Air and Non-Lithium types, 9 volts and below. All batteries must be dry cell only, and they cannot be leaking or have broken cases. Through the efforts of Larry Gessner, batteries that are in especially good condition are being recharged and donated to Bethesda Mission, while all others are recycled.

The Youth Group continues to collect aluminum – aluminum only, please – in the lower level of the barn, facing toward Elizabethville. ***Please be sure to place your aluminum inside the sliding door and not outside in the pull-in space, where the animals tend to create a mess with donations.*** Thank you for your help with this major fundraiser for our youth and help for our environment!

### Our Faith Active in Worship – July 30, 2023

<b>Current – Budget Goal</b>	<b>\$2,796</b>
Current – Offerings Received	\$2,603
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$215
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$90
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$570
Total Attendance	<b>Zoom –6, In Person – 73</b>

### "St John's Restoration 250" Financial Update – As of July 30, 2023

Final Total Project Cost (under \$220,000 Budgeted)	\$216,795
Memorials Interest Money Expended for Project	\$82,380
	(under \$88,000 Budgeted)
Total Financial Gifts Received	\$123,265
Total Financial Gifts Pledged, Not Yet Received	\$11,150

### Hospitalized/Residing in Senior Living/Dealing with Acute Illness

- **Cindy Carr** – At Home, Undergoing Treatment for Autoimmune Disorder and Resulting Organ Damage
- **Judy Cheatham** – Rm. #47B, Complete Care at Annapolis, 900 Van Buren Street, Annapolis, MD 21403
- **Timothy Enders** – Rm. #120, The Gardens at York Terrace, 2401 W. Market St., Pottsville, 17901
- **Cora Mace** – Rm. #3647, Roosevelt 3, Masonic Health Care Center, 600 Freemason Drive, Elizabethtown, 17022
- **Joyce Matter** – Rm. #128, Viva Senior Living at Harrisburg, 150 Kempton Avenue, Harrisburg, 17111 (717.909.0417)
- **Steven Schlegel** – Penn State Hershey Medical Center
- **Jean & Fred Weaver** – In Need of Prayer