

# ST. JOHN'S EPISTLE

## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

BERRYSBURG, PA DECEMBER 2021 / JANUARY 2022



### Letter from the Pastor

Dear Friends in Jesus,

As we come up on 21 months of living with a global pandemic, “weariness” maybe doesn’t even begin to capture what most if not all of us are feeling. It sometimes feels as if we are simply mired, with nothing changing or at least with nothing getting better. Here, as is the case so many times, our feelings can fool us.

As I look back a year at what we were doing as a congregational family in the way of COVID precautions, I am really happy to report that we are in no way at the same place we were last year at this time! Last year at this time, with a winter surge just beginning to build and with vaccines still a brand-new thing, Congregational Council unanimously and with very little debate decided that it would be best to switch back to Zoom-only activities, including Christmas Eve worship – a change that ended up lasting all the way until the end of February.

This year, there is no question of doing that, and assuming that the pandemic doesn’t take some radical new and much more dire turn, there will continue to be no question of doing that. That means for instance that we will once again enjoy an in-person late afternoon/evening Advent/Christmas Celebration event on December 12 (think gingerbread houses!) as well as a return to in-person Christmas Eve worship, at the very least at our familiar 4:00pm and 8:00pm, which will look and sound very familiar and which will be available in hybrid fashion, both in-person and on Zoom.

It's true that some of the details will change a bit in light of the fact that, while we aren't where we were a year ago, we also still aren't at the place we look toward as a “new normal”. Subject to continued review by Congregational Council, masks may well be required indoors for a while for folks who aren't fully vaccinated, depending on just how quickly our area finally starts to move away from being at the highest level of virus transmission. And our Christmas decorations will be scaled back from previous years – we will still wait until another year, for instance, for the return of the beloved poinsettias. But the Christmas Eve carols and candles, the nativity scene and the tree, the sharing in the Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus in Holy Communion will be experienced as before 2020. Please be sure to stay tuned to my update emails and Sunday announcements for further updates and details.

Looking ahead to 2022, I am anticipating that our Winter Midweek Bible Study will get underway on Wednesday, January 12, from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M., but I am still working out the details, including (with our neighboring congregations) what the coming of the Season of Lent will mean for Wednesdays in general and Bible Study in particular. Here again, please stay tuned for details as we get closer to time, but feel free to sign up with me at any time.

I will close with the words, slightly updated, which I shared here a year ago... ***As the past almost 21 months have held tumult and change such as most of us have never before experienced, I have been finding deep hope and assurance in the steady turning of the Church Year, reminding me and you that the followers of Jesus have experienced challenges like ours and many, many much more trying times over the past almost-2,000 years. But, led by the Holy Spirit, the worship calendar has continued to turn and our ancestors in the faith have endured, as shall we. As we again enter into this holy time of the Church Year, reminded once again of just how very much God loves you and me and all that God has made, I want to thank you, my sisters and brothers in this wonderful congregational family, for another year of productive and faithful – even if much changed and adapted – ministry together. Ann and I wish and pray for each of you a most blessed Advent and Christmas celebration and many joyous new beginnings in the year 2022 to come!***

Pastor Tom

## News from Miss Laurie, Young Christians Minister

Happy December everyone! Only 24 “sleeps” before the BIG day! We have a lot of fun activities leading up to the birth of our Lord and Savior, so grab your calendars and jot down these important dates:

- **Wednesday, December 1st** – It’s our “Candy Bar Christmas” Celebration Club extravaganza! Join us from 6:30 – 8:00 for our Club Christmas party where the candy bars will be flowing!!
- **Sunday, December 12th** – The whole family is invited to our “Gingerbread Bash” Advent Event where we’ll be making gingerbread nativity scenes to celebrate the birth of Jesus! Join us from 4:00 – 5:30-ish and help us discover that sometimes the greatest gift comes in the most ordinary box!
- **Sunday, December 19th** – Come and be part of the fun at our annual SONday Celebration Christmas Party! The fun starts at 9:00 and will continue through Celebration Time!!
- **Friday, December 24th** – Join us for one (or both) of our Christmas Eve services. The first, starting at 4:00, is our Christmas Eve “Celebration” Service – a kid-friendly service featuring contemporary Christmas music and a Sunny Sermon. Later that evening, at 8:00, we’ll have the traditional Christmas Eve Candlelight Service. Come and share the wonder of Christmas with your church family!
- **Sunday, December 26th** – It’s our “Happy Birthday Jesus” Party at 9:00 in SONday Celebration!

And finally, all through the month of December, we’ll be doing a “Reverse Advent Calendar” where each day you’ll be prompted to make a specific food donation (ie December 1 – box of cereal; December 2 – peanut butter, etc.). Collect your items through the month and then bring in your filled boxes for the “Happy Birthday Jesus” party on the 26th! The donations will then be taken to the Food Bank! What a great way to help your children realize that the season is about GIVING!! Thanks to Courtney and Grayson Foreman for putting this program together!! Pick up a “Reverse Calendar” in SONday Celebration!!

We’re offering lots of opportunities to prepare your hearts for Jesus and put you in the Christmas spirit! We hope you’ll share these experiences with us - we’d love to see you at the celebrations!!

Wishing you ALL a very merry Christmas!!! May the joy of this season continue to fill your hearts and bless you through the new year!

Miss Laurie

# REVERSE ADVENT CALENDAR

EACH DAY ADD AN ITEM TO A BOX.  
ON CHRISTMAS EVE DONATE THE CONTENTS TO A  
FOOD BANK.

- December 1 - box of cereal
- December 2 - peanut butter
- December 3 - stuffing mix
- December 4 - boxed potatoes
- December 5 - macaroni and cheese
- December 6 - canned fruit
- December 7 - canned tomatoes
- December 8 - canned tuna
- December 9 - dessert mix
- December 10 - jar of applesauce
- December 11 - canned sweet potatoes
- December 12 - cranberry sauce
- December 13 - canned beans
- December 14 - box of crackers
- December 15 - package of rice
- December 16 - package of oatmeal
- December 17 - package pasta
- December 18 - spaghetti sauce
- December 19 - chicken noodle soup
- December 20 - tomato soup
- December 21 - can corn
- December 22 - can mixed vegetables
- December 23 - can carrots
- December 24 - can green beans

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# St. John's Youth Group

St. John's Facebook: [facebook.com/stjohnhillchurch](https://facebook.com/stjohnhillchurch)

St. John's Children and Youth Ministry: [facebook.com/childrenandyouthministry](https://facebook.com/childrenandyouthministry)

ELCA Gathering Website: [www.elca.org/youthgathering](http://www.elca.org/youthgathering)



Merry Christmas, St. John's Youth Group!!! May God bless you this holiday season and all year round!!

## ELCA Youth Gathering Update

We have moved St. John's registration for the 2022 ELCA Youth Gathering to Sunday, November 28th to Sunday, December 12th. We have the opportunity to ride the Lower Susquehanna Synod bus to Minneapolis. This is why the registration has to be moved up. Please see Olivia to sign up and get all the required forms.

## DIP Fundraiser Pickup

The dip fundraiser will be available for pick up at the church on Sunday, December 12th. Please see Amy with any questions.

## Youth Group Ugly Christmas Sweater Party

**Thursday, December 30th**

**6:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.**

Bring a blanket and pillow to watch a movie!

Bring some cookies to share and your favorite mug to fill with hot chocolate!!!



## Book Club

Please join us for upcoming Book Group Discussions! For the next several months, all book discussions will be on Zoom. Please note that after the 6:00 pm discussion on December 6, we will be starting half an hour later at 6:30 for the winter/2022. Hope to see you there!

**Monday, Dec 6 6:00 pm on Zoom Snow Falling on Cedars by David Guterson**

**Monday, Jan 10 6:30 pm on Zoom The Invention of Wings by Sue Monk Kidd**

Questions? Call or email Ann at 717-362-7895 or [rahbruner@gmail.com](mailto:rahbruner@gmail.com).

## Annual Congregational Meeting to be held

As specified in our congregational constitution, our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held in two parts. On **Sunday, December 12**, we will meet following worship to take action on the election of five members to our Congregational Council and to adopt a spending plan for 2022. On **Sunday, January 16**, we will again meet following worship to receive and act on reports of the ministry of our congregation conducted during 2021 and take care of such other business as may come before the gathered body. For both parts of the meeting, it is **very important** that we have a good turnout of voting members! Voting members are confirmed members of the congregation who have communed and made a contribution of record during 2020 and/or 2021. For those attending either or both parts of the meeting via Zoom, the Zoom host of the morning will make sure to keep a close eye on all Zoom participants for any questions that need forwarding to the floor of the meeting and when hands need to be raised for any voting.

To aid you in preparing for the December 12 meeting, the proposed 2022 combined budget for the Current, Children and Youth (C&Y), Flower, and Improvement Funds, along with the budget for the Benevolence Fund, are included in this **Epistle**. To focus on that combined budget for a moment, covering the funds which handle far and away most of the day-to-day work of congregational ministry, you will notice that total anticipated 2022 expenditures show an increase of just over \$4,800 or 2.6% from 2021. This increase is largely the result of a proposed \$3,100 (2.8%) increase in Pastor Tom's area of the budget to keep his compensation in line with synodical guidelines, along with the effect of similar proposed percentage increases in compensation for Miss Laurie and our other paid staff.

With regard to Congregational Council elections, our Nominating Committee is bringing the following five names for congregational action on December 12: **Gail Billow, Courtney Foreman, Joshua Paul** and **Craig Peters** for regular three-year terms and **Carl Baumgardner** to fill the remaining one year of the term vacated by Ken Koller.

Please don't miss this opportunity to help in the faithful strengthening of our ministry together – plan to join in these brief but important gatherings on December 12 and January 16!

## Looking Ahead, Prayerfully and Hopefully, to Annual Festival

A date has been set for our Annual Strawberry Festival in 2022, planned for Wednesday, June 8, in our grove and pavilion and in our traditional “dine in/hang out” format. A first gathering for planning has also been set for Tuesday, March 1, at 7:00 P.M. at the church.

Please save these dates in your family’s calendar, and please spread the news to your friends and neighbors!

As work begins on a new bi-annual Congregational Family Directory, which will become available in January with the Annual Congregational Report, there has been a good bit of interest expressed in including best email addresses along with mailing addresses and telephone numbers in the new directory. If you would like to share your best email address(es) for the upcoming directory, please send that information with your permission to both Rachel and Pastor Tom, and it will be included. ***Please note that, even though Pastor Tom and/or Miss Laurie might already have your email address(es), they will not share that information for the directory or for any other reason without your further permission, as they agreed when given that information, so please be sure to send this new email if interested!***

Three new 2022 sponsor sheets have also been posted on the foyer bulletin board – for continuing ministry support for our ***Celebrate*** bulletin inserts (\$22/month); for ***Tree 4 Hope***, an innovative anti-poverty ministry begun by our neighbors at Tree of Life Evangelical Lutheran Church, Linglestown Road, Harrisburg, and serving those in need in Guatemala, involving an orphanage, mission trips from our area, and, now, a new girls' school called “Hope Academy” - a world mission with a local connection (\$50/month) – and for providing one month of a ***Konde Diocese (in Tanzania, Africa) Pastors Salary*** (\$50/month) . Please sign up on the foyer bulletin board to sponsor any of these three ministries in honor or in memory of loved ones or events.

***Please note that, until we get closer to returning to all of the “normal/regular” details of worship, a sign-up sheet won’t be posted for altar flowers. Please stay tuned for updates about when we will be resuming our flower ministry!***

## Christmas Cards for Kate

Last year, for her 16th birthday on October 26, Kate Gessner received a shower of cards from her friends and family members in South Central Pennsylvania. I found out recently that she placed those cards on display in her bedroom, which shows how much she appreciated this kindness. Kate continues to struggle with the realities of life in Western Canada, far from the home in Pennsylvania that she knew until last year. As a morale booster for Kate, we would like to request a Christmas Card Shower as she now continues to count down to October 26, 2022, which will be her 18th birthday. Her address for sending those cards would be:

Katherine E. Gessner  
6 Graystone Close  
Spring Grove, Alberta, Canada  
T7X2A6

Many thanks!

-Larry, Mary, Marc & Lynnette Gessner and Bob & Doris Schaffer

## Christmas Cards for Shut-in Members

Let's shower our shut-ins this year with Christmas cards from our congregation!

### **Mrs. Judy Cheatham**

Room #47B  
Cadia Healthcare  
900 Van Buren Street  
Annapolis, MD 21403

### **Mrs. Joyce Matter**

Room #128  
Commonwealth Senior Living at Harrisburg  
150 Kempton Avenue  
Harrisburg, PA 17111

### **Mrs. Jane Grosser**

Room #705  
Northern Dauphin Nursing and Rehab Center  
Millersburg, PA 17061

### **Mrs. Cora Mace**

Room #3647, Roosevelt 3  
Masonic Health Care Center  
600 Freemason Drive  
Elizabethtown, PA 17022

### **Mrs. Marzette Hoffman**

Room #805  
Northern Dauphin Nursing and Rehab Center  
Millersburg, PA 17061

### **Mr. Warren Hassinger**

Room #103  
Connections Unit  
Providence Place of Pottsville  
2200 First Avenue  
Pottsville, PA 17901

### **Mrs. Dawn Warner**

Halifax Village LLC  
66 Kip Road  
Halifax, PA 17032

## Lector Schedule for 2022

Month	Lector
January	Reyann Cheatham
February	Barry Williard
March	Judith Cheatham
April	Donald Deibler
May	Amy Gehring
June	Joshua Paul
July	Carl Baumgardner
August	Gary & Terri Daniels
September	Vincent Lamenza
October	Jamie Doyle
November	Henry Family
December	Matt Williard

We thank them for serving in this important ministry of worship. *(And on Sunday, January 16, we will join in praying God's blessing on them as they share God's Word throughout the coming year!)*

## Pastoral Acts

### At the Altar

Pastor Tom presided on Reformation Day, Sunday, October 31, as we welcomed ten of our young members to the Lord's Table for their First Holy Communions, following the completion of instruction with Pastor Tom: **Abigail Adams, Grady DeSoto, Briana Radel, Abigail Bixler, Stella DeSoto, Brady Dresel, Jennifer Kell, Elsie Rabenold, Marc Schaffner, and Maclyn Shoop.**

And on Sunday, November 7, and Sunday, November 14, Pastor Tom again presided as we joined in the order for Affirmation of Baptism and celebrated the Confirmation of **Gabe Gehring, Aidan Roadcap, Hoyt Schlegel, Avery Mace, Ashton Schreffler, and Madeline Williard.**

Congratulations to these younger members and their families on these important milestones in their faith journeys!

## Congratulations!

To **Alex & Robin Fulton Langhans** following the safe and healthy birth of **Sadie Jane Langhans** on the night of Wednesday, October 20, at the Penn State Health Children's Hospital in Hershey. Sadie weighed in at a very healthy 7 pounds and 8 ounces and Mom reports that "Hank is very excited about his new role as big brother". Congratulations to the **Langhans** and **Fulton** Families as well!



# St John Evangelical Lutheran Church

## Congregational Council Minutes

### October 3, 2021

The council meeting was called to order by President, Roy Henry. Pastor Tom opened the meeting with devotions from Psalm 8 and a prayer.

**Present:** Roy Henry, Matt Williard, Sandra Lamenza, Ira Antes, Lori Motter, Sheila Barder, and Pastor Tom Bruner

**Excused Absent:** Heidi Lehman, Arlene Doyle, Dana Klouser, Ron Erb, and Michael Henninger.

**Minutes:** Motion by Matt Williard and seconded by Ira Antes to accept the September minutes. Motion approved unanimously.

#### **Reception of Petitions and Communications:**

Gary Daniels will research AED (automated external defibrillator) options for the church. Gary also agreed to research a Mass Trauma Kit, as well as a Carry Chair. Gary will present his options at the next Council meeting in November.

Pastor Tom showed a yard sign received from the Lower Susquehanna Synod to welcome people to our church. Pastor Tom will place the sign on the front corner of the yard. All in agreement the sign was very nicely done.

On behalf of Cub Scout Pack 86, Pastor Tom was requested to attend a meeting of the Gratz Community Center leaders this week. Pastor Tom advised them that he will be out of town and not able to attend. Previously, the scouts were able to hold their meetings at the Gratz Community Center free of charge. There has been a change in policy and the scouts will be required to pay a fee for use of the building. Discussion followed on the increase in scout fees and the sponsoring church liabilities and clearances. Discussion on the church getting copies of our scout leaders' clearances. We may also look into Youth Protection video training for all leaders involved with the pack.

**Pastor's Report:** Motion made by Sheila Barder and seconded by Sandra Lamenza to accept the Pastor's report. Motion approved unanimously.

**Children and Youth Ministry Report:** Motion was made by Ira Antes and seconded by Matt Williard to accept Miss Laurie's report. Motion approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Reports:** Motion made by Matt Williard and seconded by Ira Antes to accept the Treasurer's reports. Motion approved unanimously.

#### **Reports of Standing Committees:**

**Church Property:** Sandra Lamenza and Jeff Buffington completed wrap-up work in the pavilion to close for the winter. Harold Herb worked on insulation and closing basement vents. Bob Weaver worked on winterizing the cooler unit. Property Committee reached out to Kent Zimmerman regarding furnaces. Tim Motter has agreed to do snow removal. Barry Williard completed putting up the stars. Sandra Lamenza will reach out to a Harrisburg business for an estimate on painting the sanctuary ceiling. Sandra noted that four trees were removed on the cemetery and will need to be re-seeded. Next Property Committee meeting is November 2, 2021.

**Finance:** No report – next meeting is October 5, 2021.

**Worship and Music:** Meeting was held on September 21, 2021. Discussion was on the upcoming Holy Communion (first Sunday of the month and Festival Days). The dates are: October 3 (today), October 31, November 7, November 21, December 5, and Christmas Eve. For now, we will continue with the practice of Drive-Up or Walk-Up. In the event of bad weather, Holy Communion will be held in the church foyer. The committee discussed Senior Choir. There is no safe way to resume Choir at this time.

**Faith Formation Team:** No report

**Youth Ministry:** Welcome Back picnic was a big success – all good comments received. The Lutheran Youth Organization also packed 500 school kits that afternoon. Great job! For October and Halloween – a possible trip being planned to the Corn Maze in Hegins or Game Day at church. Youth Sunday School class started today.

**Mutual Ministry:** Meeting held today, October 3. Follow-up discussion on Pastor Tom's recent sermon. The committee feels they are in a good place. Discussion also held on the Sexton's duties of ringing the bell.

**Executive:** No report

**Nominating:** Three of four commitments received so far for nominations for 2022.

**History and Archive:** Sandra Lamenza noted she is working on getting Church Council Minutes organized. Also, she is thinning out extra copies of church bulletins. Due to space limitations, we will only keep one copy of each Sunday's bulletin.

**Women of ELCA:** The Women hosted the synodical convention on September 25, 2021 – 53 ladies were registered. The Fall Women's Retreat at Camp Hebron is being held October 29-31, 2021. The Soup Sale/Fundraiser will be held on Saturday, November 6, 2021. Due to Covid-19, the women were not able to hold regular meetings and were not able to build up the treasury to meet their usual expenses. This is the reason for the upcoming fundraiser. Pastor Tom also noted that Thankoffering Sunday will most likely be held on November 21, 2021.

#### **Unfinished Business:**

Pastor Tom reported on the 4<sup>th</sup> and final meeting with Avery Mace – the meeting went well. She is on schedule to be confirmed with the other students of Confirmation Class on All Saints Sunday, November 7, 2021.

**COVID-related:** Many positive comments received from the congregation to continue having worship outside in the pavilion as long as possible, weather permitting. Motion made by Matt Williard, second by Sandra Lamenza to continue with outside worship (weather permitting) through October 31, 2021. Motion approved unanimously. Council members will have a short meeting after worship on October 31 to discuss a return to indoor worship.

**COVID-related:** Discussion held on procedures to follow when returning to indoor worship:

We will social distance by closing off every other pew

There will be no singing - we will look into playing professional recorded Christian music during one or both hymn timeslots

Masks will be optional (except for Miss Laurie and children under 12 where masks are still required)

Masks will still be available for anyone who wants one

Motion made by Matt Williard, second by Sandra Lamenza to accept the above procedures when returning to indoor worship. Motion approved unanimously.

**New Business:** Discussion was held on a possible new sponsorship opportunity. Sponsors may want to contribute to the cost of Zoom worship. Discussion was tabled until next month.

**Next Council Meeting:** The next council meeting will be November 14, 2021, at 4:00 pm.

**Adjournment:** Motion by Matt Williard and seconded by Ira Antes to adjourn the meeting. Motion approved unanimously. The meeting was closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Lori Motter, Assistant Secretary

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			1	2	3	4
*(Both In-Person and on Zoom)			6:30-8pm - Monthly Celebration Club with Miss Laurie (In-Person at the Church) 6:30-8pm - Midweek Bible Study 7pm - Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer for Medical Professionals, Educators, Students & Their Families			Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 9am - Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Younger Groups In-Person) 10:15am – Worship*, including Sacrament of Holy Communion and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person	6pm - Book Discussion Group Monthly Gathering (Via Zoom) <b>Hanukkah Ends at Sundown</b>	9:30am - Pastor Tom at Conference Pastors Meeting	6:30-8pm - Midweek Bible Study 7pm - Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer for Medical Professionals, Educators, Students & Their Families	<b>Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East</b>		Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 9am - Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Younger Groups In-Person) 10:15am – Worship*, including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person 11:15am - Annual Congregational Mtg - Part 1* 11:30am (approx.) Congregational Council Mtg 2pm - Women of the ELCA of St. John Mtg. 4-5:30pm Advent/Christmas Event (Planned in Person)			6:30-8pm - Midweek Bible Study 7pm - Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer for Medical Professionals, Educators, Students & Their Families			Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent</b> 9am - Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Younger Groups In-Person) 10:15am - Worship*, including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person	Cub Scout Lions Den Meeting		7pm - Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer for Medical Professionals, Educators, Students & Their Families		<b>Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Eve</b> 4pm - Christmas Eve Celebration Time Worship, including Sacrament of Holy Communion* 8pm - Christmas Eve Candlelight Worship, including Sacrament of Holy Communion*	<b>Nativity of Our Lord, Christmas Day</b>  Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
		<b>Winter Begins</b>				
26	27	28	29	30	31	
<b>Pastor Tom Off – Returning to the Office on January 6</b>						
<b>1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Christmas/Stephen, Deacon &amp; Martyr</b> 9am - Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Younger Groups In-Person) 10:15am – Worship*, including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person	<b>John, Apostle &amp; Evangelist</b>	<b>Holy Innocents, Martyrs</b>	7pm - Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer for Medical Professionals, Educators, Students & Their Families		<b>New Year's Eve</b>	

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						1
						<b>Pastor Tom Off</b>
						<b>Name of Jesus</b>
						<b>New Year's Day</b>
*(Both In-Person and on Zoom)						
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
<b>Pastor Tom Off – Returning to the Office on January 6</b>				<b>Epiphany of Our Lord</b>		
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Christmas</b> 9am - Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Younger Groups In-Person) 10:15am - Traditional Lessons & Carols Worship*, including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person	Cub Scout Lions Den Meeting		6:30-8pm - Monthly Celebration Club with Miss Laurie (In-Person) 7pm - Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer for Medical Professionals, Educators, Students & Their Families			Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
<b>Baptism of Our Lord</b> 9am - Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Younger Groups In-Person) 10:15am – Worship*, including Sacrament of Holy Communion, Recognition of the Newly-Baptized and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person 11:15am - Mutual Ministry Comm. Quarterly Mtg 2pm - Women of the ELCA of St. John Mtg. 4pm - Congregational Council Meeting <b>Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East</b>	6:30pm - Book Group Monthly Gathering (Via Zoom)		6:30-8pm - Midweek Bible Study (Via Zoom) 7pm - Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer for Medical Professionals, Educators, Students & Their Families			<b>Deadline to Submit Items for February "St. John's Epistle"</b>  Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
<b>2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b> 9am - Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Younger Groups In-Person) 10:15am - Worship*, including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person 11:15am - Annual Congregational Mtg – Part 2*	7pm – Upper Dauphin Conference Cabinet at St. John Pastor Tom Taking Monthly Extra Day Off  <b>Martin Luther King, Jr. Day</b>	<b>Confession of Peter</b> 6:15pm - Worship & Music Committee Meeting	6:30-8pm - Midweek Bible Study (Via Zoom) 7pm - Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer for Medical Professionals, Educators, Students & Their Families			Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
<b>3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b> 9am - Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Younger Groups In-Person) 10:15am – Worship*, including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person		<b>Conversion of Paul</b> 6:15pm - Property Committee Meeting	6:30-8pm - Midweek Bible Study (Via Zoom) 7pm - Weekly Congregational Family Time of Prayer for Medical Professionals, Educators, Students & Their Families			Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
30	31					
<b>4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Epiphany</b> 9am - Faith Formation Time (Adult Bible Study on Zoom; Younger Groups In-Person) 10:15am – Worship*, including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for Young Persons In-Person						

## Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Monday, Tuesday: 8am – 9:30am

Wednesday, Thursday: 8am – 12 noon

Friday: 8am - 9:30am

(Other times by appointment)

## Contact Information

The Rev. Thomas Bruner, Jr., Pastor	<a href="mailto:stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com">stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com</a>	717-362-9519 (O) 717-362-7895 (H)
Laurie Little, Young Christians Minister	<a href="mailto:misslaurie.little@gmail.com">misslaurie.little@gmail.com</a>	717-365-5099 (H) 717-571-5058 (C)
Lewis Weaver, Sexton	<a href="mailto:bootsdagreat@gmail.com">bootsdagreat@gmail.com</a>	570-809-1014
Grace Weaver, Sexton	No Email	570-809-1510
Judith Ferree, Organist	<a href="mailto:jferree@epix.net">jferree@epix.net</a>	717-362-4228
Carol Hubler, Choir Director	<a href="mailto:mchubler@gmail.com">mchubler@gmail.com</a>	570-758-5052
Rachel Henry, Secretary	<a href="mailto:henryfamily2004@gmail.com">henryfamily2004@gmail.com</a>	717-439-3897
Roy Henry, Council President	<a href="mailto:henryfamily2004@gmail.com">henryfamily2004@gmail.com</a>	717-215-9837
Fay Nichols, Prayer Chain Coordinator	<a href="mailto:fnichols46@comcast.net">fnichols46@comcast.net</a>	717-329-7447

Physical Address (for deliveries): 215 St. John Road Elizabethville, PA 17023

Mailing Address: PO Box 270 | Berrysburg, PA 17005

Church Website: [www.stjohnhillchurch.org](http://www.stjohnhillchurch.org)

Facebook: [www.facebook.com/stjohnhillchurch](https://www.facebook.com/stjohnhillchurch)