

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

911 Emergency/GPS Location: 215 St. John Road, Elizabethville, 17023

For US Mail Deliveries: PO Box 270, Berrysburg, 17005-0270

717-362-9519 | pt@stjohnhillchurch.org | www.stjohnhillchurch.org

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
Gabe Gehring	Special Speaker
Laurie Little	Young Christians Minister
Judy Ferree	Organist
Ty Troutman	Senior Choir Director
Matthew Riland	Lead Usher
Youth of St Johns	Greeters/Lectors
Landon and Bennett Troutman	Acolytes
Joshua Paul	Council President

For the month of February, the **Celebrate Inserts** are sponsored by Chris and Dana Klouser to the Glory of God in honor of Desiree (2/20) and Collin's (3/8) birthdates. The support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania** are sponsored by Lynn and Helen Henninger in celebration of Ayden's & Sadie's February Birthdays. The **Tree 4 Hope** are sponsored by Vincent and Sandra Lamenza in loving memory of her sister, Debra Lenker.

This week's **Altar Flowers** are presented by Rob and Grayson in honor of Courtney's birthday..

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book in the foyer and 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 #815 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

*Apostolic Greeting:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

*Prayer of the Day

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Genesis 12:1-5a

Psalmody: Psalm 121

Second Reading: Galatians 1:13-17

*Gospel Acclamation (sung in unison):

WE ARE TURNING, LORD, TO HEAR YOU; YOU ARE MERCIFUL AND KIND – SLOW TO ANGER, RICH IN BLESSING, AND WITH LOVE TO US INCLINED. (Pg. 205)

*Gospel: Mark 1:14-20

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

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

Puppet Sharing Time with Miss Laurie

Sermon

We Respond to All That God Gives Us

A New Creed:

**WE ARE NOT ALONE,
WE LIVE IN GOD'S WORLD.**

**WE BELIEVE IN GOD:
WHO HAS CREATED AND IS CREATING,
WHO HAS COME IN JESUS,
THE WORD MADE FLESH,
TO RECONCILE AND MAKE NEW,
WHO WORKS IN US AND OTHERS
BY THE SPIRIT.**

WE TRUST IN GOD.

**WE ARE CALLED TO BE THE CHURCH:
TO CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE,
TO LIVE WITH RESPECT IN CREATION,
TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS,
TO SEEK JUSTICE AND RESIST EVIL,
TO PROCLAIM JESUS, CRUCIFIED AND RISEN,
OUR JUDGE AND OUR HOPE.**

**IN LIFE, IN DEATH, IN LIFE BEYOND DEATH,
GOD IS WITH US.**

WE ARE NOT ALONE.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

-The United Church of Canada, 1968

Offering of Our Gifts and Choir Anthem

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

CREATE IN ME A CLEAN HEART, O GOD, AND RENEW A RIGHT SPIRIT WITHIN ME. CAST ME NOT AWAY FROM YOUR PRESENCE, AND TAKE NOT YOUR HOLY SPIRIT FROM ME. RESTORE TO ME THE JOY OF YOUR SALVATION, AND UPHOLD ME WITH YOUR FREE SPIRIT.

*Prayers of the Church

*Our Lord's Prayer – traditional version on right side of page

Pg. 208

God Sends Us to Share the Good News

*Blessing:

P: God the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit watch over our going out and our coming in, from this time forth and forevermore.

C: **AMEN**

*Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Remember the poor.

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

*Closing Hymn #574 "Here I Am, Lord"

*Choral Dismissal Song #622 "Neither Death nor Life"

*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

* * * * *

* Please stand, if able to do so.

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Easter Flower Order Form

Stauffer's Greenhouse

Pick Up - March 31, 2024**

Tulips come in assorted colors – No color choice **

			<u>Quantity</u>		<u>Total Cost</u>
White Lily	4/5 blooms	\$11	_____	@ 11.00	_____
Daffodils	6" pot	\$9	_____	@ 9.00	_____
Tulips*	6" pot	\$9	_____	@ 9.00	_____
Regal Geranium	6" pot	\$9	_____	@ 9.00	_____
Order Total:					\$ _____

Make checks payable to: **St. John Lutheran Church**

Please **PRINT** desired memorial as you want it printed in the bulletin:

Presented by:

In honor of:

In Memory of:

For the Many Blessings of:

Order forms, along with payment, can be given to any Flower Fund Committee Member: Dana Klouser, Gail Billow, Fay Nichols or Sheila Barder

Absolute last day to order is March 03, 2024

Today, February 25

- 9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
9am Youth Group Members Meet to Prepare for Leading Worship
9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
10:15am Youth Group-Led Worship (In-Person and On Zoom)
11:15am Special Congregational Meeting (The purpose of the meeting will be to vote on a proposal to improve our pavilion kitchen, especially for our Annual Strawberry Festival. Specifically, the plan would be to 1. somewhat expand and also improve the layout of the kitchen work area and 2. create much improved access to take-out serving, including a concrete ramp linking the windows and the pavement, rather than having people navigate over the stones on the incline. With Ty Troutman taking the lead as our “general contractor” and with other “in-house” labor, our materials-only cost is estimated to be somewhere in the area of \$15,000. To fund that cost, Finance Committee is proposing to take \$10,000 from the Strawberry Festival Fund (as has been done several times over the years when it is a matter of re-investing in the Festival) which would be matched by another \$5,000 in already-designated giving, with up to another \$5,000 also likely available in additional giving if we should end up exceeding the \$15,000. **All voting members – those confirmed members who have communed and contributed during 2022 or 2023 – are especially encouraged to attend this brief, but very important, meeting!**)
1-5pm Girl Scout World Thinking Day Activity in “Sunday School” Room
2pm Marriage of Michael Henninger and Pamela Kosier (at Salem United Church of Christ in Elizabethtown with Pastor Tom and Pastor Ray Holland sharing the worship)

Monday, February 26

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom’s Office Hours
9-11am “Blanket Bunch” Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief
7pm Church Dartball League Match – Messiah Lutheran at St. John

Tuesday, February 27

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom’s Office Hours
6:15pm Property Committee Meeting
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

Wednesday, February 28

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom’s Office Hours
6:15pm St. John Hosts Community Lenten Supper and Worship (7:00) – Pastor Ray Holland Speaking – If you would be able to help with the serving of the meal, please be at the church by 5:30 P.M.

Thursday, February 29

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom’s Office Hours

Friday, March 1

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom’s Office Hours

Saturday, March 2

Pastor Tom’s Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, March 3

- Third Sunday in Lent
9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person), Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)
9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
10:15am Worship, Including Celebration of Holy Communion and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)

Looking Ahead

Pastor Tom will be speaking at the third Community Lenten Supper and Worship on Wednesday, March 6, at Salem United Church of Christ in Elizabethtown. The meal will begin at 6:15 P.M., with worship at 7:00.

The March **Jesus Brings New Life** gathering of **Celebration Club with Miss Laurie** will be held in-person at the church on Wednesday, March 6, from 6:30 to 8:00 P.M.

* * * * *

Amy Gehring continues to collect donations to Bethesda Mobile Mission. Gently used, unstained, clean blankets and casual clothing for MEN & WOMEN are always a need since the homeless do not typically have the ability to launder items. Sleeping bags, tarps, mats, backpacks/large totes or bags are also useful. New underwear, socks, batteries (all sizes), toilet paper, candles, and matches are highly valued. Those served by the Bethesda Mobile Mission also need TRAVEL SIZE toiletries—don’t leave those small bottles behind when you are traveling. Pass them along to Amy. Please contact Amy at church with any questions or call her at 1-717-503-7623. Donations can be placed in the designated hampers in the foyer.

Easter Sunrise Breakfast

Please join us for the First Annual Fred Weaver Memorial Easter Breakfast on March 31st at 7am. If there are any men of the congregation willing to help please contact Roy Henry at 717-215-9837.

St. John Women of the ELCA Event: March 7, 2024, 6:30-7:30pm

Around the World with Mary Ann Smeltz

Come enjoy an evening with Mary Ann presenting a PowerPoint presentation which will transport those attending to all 7 continents via photos and videos of some of her travels. She has been to 7 continents and has been to 60 countries and counting!

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** – Home with Continuing Follow-up

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