

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

911 Emergency/GPS Location: 215 St. John Road, Elizabethtown, 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
Laurie Little	Young Christians Minister
Judy Ferree	Organist
Ty Troutman	Senior Choir Director
Ron and Bonnie Erb	Greeters
Tanner & Abby Bixler	Acolytes
Reyann Cheatham	Lector
Sandra Lamenza	Lead Usher
Joshua Paul	Council President

For the month of January, the **Celebrate Inserts**, the support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania**, and the **Tree 4 Hope** are sponsored by Roy and Rachel Henry for God's many blessings.

This week's **Altar flowers** are presented in loving memory of our sister, Nancy by Rita and Paul Glace.

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

God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Organ Prelude and Silent Prayer

*Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the Lord of Israel who comes to set us free, the mighty Savior who comes to show mercy, the Dawn from on High who guides us into peace.

C: **AMEN.**

P: Let us come before God in confession.

(brief silence follows)

P: To you, O God,

C: **WE LIFT UP OUR SOULS. YOU KNOW US THROUGH AND THROUGH; WE CONFESS OUR SINS TO YOU. REMEMBER NOT OUR SINS; REMEMBER US WITH YOUR STEADFAST LOVE. SHOW US YOUR WAYS; TEACH US YOUR PATHS; AND LEAD US IN JUSTICE AND TRUTH, FOR THE SAKE OF YOUR GOODNESS IN JESUS CHRIST OUR SAVIOR. AMEN.**

P: Sisters and brothers, come with joy and draw water from the well of salvation. Remember the gift of baptism: our sin is washed away in the name of Jesus; we belong to Christ; we are anointed to serve. Stand up and raise your heads! The reign of God is near.

C: **AMEN.**

*Opening Hymn #815 "I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light"

*Greeting:

P: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the refining fire of the Holy Spirit, and the peace of God, which surpasses understanding, be with you all.

C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

*Prayer of the Day

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Jonah 3:1-5, 10

Psalm: 62:5-12

Second I Corinthians 7:29-31

*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.**

Sunny Sermon with Miss Laurie

Young Persons Go with Miss Laurie for Celebration Time

Sermon

We Respond to All That God Gives Us

Blessing of Lectors

We Proclaim Our Faith:

I BELIEVE IN THE HOLY SPIRIT, THE HOLY CATHOLIC CHURCH, THE COMMUNION OF SAINTS, THE FORGIVENESS OF SINS, THE RESURRECTION OF THE BODY, AND THE LIFE EVERLASTING. (THIS MEANS THAT) I BELIEVE THAT BY MY OWN UNDERSTANDING OR STRENGTH I CANNOT BELIEVE IN JESUS CHRIST MY LORD OR COME TO HIM, BUT INSTEAD THE HOLY SPIRIT HAS CALLED ME THROUGH THE GOSPEL, ENLIGHTENED ME WITH HIS GIFTS, MADE ME HOLY, AND KEPT ME IN THE TRUE FAITH, JUST AS HE CALLS, GATHERS, ENLIGHTENS, AND MAKES HOLY THE WHOLE CHRISTIAN CHURCH ON EARTH AND KEEPS IT WITH JESUS CHRIST IN THE ONE COMMON, TRUE FAITH. DAILY IN THIS CHRISTIAN CHURCH THE HOLY SPIRIT ABUNDANTLY FORGIVES ALL SINS – MINE AND THOSE OF ALL BELIEVERS. ON THE LAST DAY THE HOLY SPIRIT WILL RAISE ME AND ALL THE DEAD AND WILL GIVE TO ME AND ALL BELIEVERS IN CHRIST ETERNAL LIFE. THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE.

-Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*

Offering of Our Gifts and Choir Anthem

*Prayers of the Church

*Our Lord's Prayer:

OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME, THY KINGDOM COME, THY WILL BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN.

GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD; AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES, AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US; AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL.

FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY, FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN.

God Sends Us to Share the Good News

*Blessing:

P: God the Father, light-creator; God the Son, Light from Light; and God the Holy Spirit, light-revealer, bless us and give us peace.

C: **AMEN**

*Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Share the Good News.

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

*Closing Hymn #817 "You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore"

*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

* * * * *

* Please stand, if able to do so.

Today, January 21

9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)
9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
10:15am Worship, Including Blessing of Lectors and Sunny Sermon and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)
11:15am Annual Congregational Meeting, Part Two (In-Person and On Zoom, we will review reports of our ministry during 2023 and conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting. Voting members of the congregation – those confirmed members who have communed and contributed during 2023 or 2022 – are especially needed to attend this brief, but important, meeting.)

This morning, we ask God's blessing on all the persons who do the important work each week of sharing the Word of God from the Bible with us in worship. The following are the persons who lead this ministry each month, while often sharing it with others at their discretion:

January	Reyann Cheatham
February	Barry Williard
March	Judith Cheatham
April	Courtney Foreman
May	Amy Gehring
June	Joshua Paul
July	Carl Baumgardner
August	Dana Klouser
September	Vincent Lamenza
October	Jamie Doyle
November	The Henry Family
December	Matthew Williard

6:30pm Creation Care Team Gathering at the Church

Monday, January 22

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

Tuesday, January 23

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

Wednesday, January 24

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Thursday, January 25

Conversion of Paul

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Friday, January 26

8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Saturday, January 27

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, January 28

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)

9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)
9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
10:15am Worship, Including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)
11:15am Youth Group Gathering

Looking Ahead

For the month of February, sponsors are still needed for our ministry gift to **Tree 4 Hope** (\$50/month) as well as for the altar flowers for Sundays, February 11, 18, and 25 (\$35/week). To sponsor any of these ministries in honor or in memory of loved ones or events, please either sign up in person in the foyer or, if easier, please feel free to call or email Pastor Tom, who can take care of signing you up.

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

Fill the Pew!

The ELCA women of the congregation are holding A Fill The Pew event the month of January. All items received will benefit the Weekend Snack Pack program.

Three items are especially needed at this time: Pop tarts, individual sized cereal, Vienna sausage – 4.6oz cans. Thank you in advance for supporting this event.

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
- **Dana Klouser** – Discharged from UPMC Harrisburg on 1/14
- **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
- **Fred Weaver** – Rm. #306, Harmony at West Shore, 1910 Technology Parkway, Mechanicsburg, 17050

Our Faith Active in Worship – January 7, 2024

Current – Approx. Budget Goal	\$TBD
Current – Offerings Received	\$5,622
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$200
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$0
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$500
Total Attendance:	Zoom – 86, In Person – 0 (cancelled)

Our Faith Active in Worship – January 14, 2024

Current – Approx. Budget Goal	\$TBD
Current – Offerings Received	\$3,282
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$320
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$155
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$2,295
Total Attendance:	Zoom – 34, In Person – 62

Today, January 21

9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)
9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
10:15am Worship, Including Blessing of Lectors and Sunny Sermon and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)
11:15am Annual Congregational Meeting, Part Two (In-Person and On Zoom, we will review reports of our ministry during 2023 and conduct such other business as may properly come before the meeting. Voting members of the congregation – those confirmed members who have communed and contributed during 2023 or 2022 – are especially needed to attend this brief, but important, meeting.)

This morning, we ask God's blessing on all the persons who do the important work each week of sharing the Word of God from the Bible with us in worship. The following are the persons who lead this ministry each month, while often sharing it with others at their discretion:

January	Reyann Cheatham
February	Barry Williard
March	Judith Cheatham
April	Courtney Foreman
May	Amy Gehring
June	Joshua Paul
July	Carl Baumgardner
August	Dana Klouser
September	Vincent Lamenza
October	Jamie Doyle
November	The Henry Family
December	Matthew Williard

6:30pm Creation Care Team Gathering at the Church

Monday, January 22

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

Tuesday, January 23

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

Wednesday, January 24

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Thursday, January 25

Conversion of Paul

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Friday, January 26

8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Saturday, January 27

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, January 28

Fourth Sunday after Epiphany
9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)

9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)
9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
10:15am Worship, Including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)
11:15am Youth Group Gathering

Looking Ahead

For the month of February, sponsors are still needed for our ministry gift to **Tree 4 Hope** (\$50/month) as well as for the altar flowers for Sundays, February 11, 18, and 25 (\$35/week). To sponsor any of these ministries in honor or in memory of loved ones or events, please either sign up in person in the foyer or, if easier, please feel free to call or email Pastor Tom, who can take care of signing you up.

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

Fill the Pew!

The ELCA women of the congregation are holding A Fill The Pew event the month of January. All items received will benefit the Weekend Snack Pack program.

Three items are especially needed at this time: Pop tarts, individual sized cereal, Vienna sausage – 4.6oz cans. Thank you in advance for supporting this event.

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
- **Dana Klouser** – Discharged from UPMC Harrisburg on 1/14
- **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
- **Fred Weaver** – Rm. #306, Harmony at West Shore, 1910 Technology Parkway, Mechanicsburg, 17050

Our Faith Active in Worship – January 7, 2024

Current – Approx. Budget Goal	\$TBD
Current – Offerings Received	\$5,622
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$200
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$0
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$500
Total Attendance:	Zoom – 86, In Person – 0 (cancelled)

Our Faith Active in Worship – January 14, 2024

Current – Approx. Budget Goal	\$TBD
Current – Offerings Received	\$3,282
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$320
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$155
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$2,295
Total Attendance:	Zoom – 34, In Person – 62