

ST. JOHN'S

EPISTLE

A Letter from The Pastor.....

Dear Friends in Jesus,

Hopefully by now, you've heard more than once about our congregational family plans for Sunday, August 13 – the day of the official Elizabethville Bicentennial Celebration Worship – but I wanted to use this space this month to go over the details one more time. We will begin the morning in the usual way, with Adult and Jr./Sr. High Sunday School here at St. John from 8:45 to 9:15 A.M. Then, we will make our way to the Upper Dauphin Area High School Auditorium to join with our Christian Sisters and Brothers in this once-in-a-lifetime worship opportunity which begins at 10:30 A.M., and with which I will be assisting. Several things about this worship and the rest of the afternoon:

+All offerings received will be split between the Upper Dauphin and Northern Dauphin Human Services Centers. This means that you shouldn't use any St. John offering envelopes at the school, as they will not be able to be properly recorded, and that the best way to give your regular August 13 Sunday offering to your home congregation will be to “double up” on either the preceding or the following Sundays.

+Miss Laurie will be leading an area-wide children's choir, which will sing during both the worship and the early afternoon religious concert. This group will hold a first rehearsal here at the church on Sunday, July 30, at 2:00 P.M. Please see her to learn more about this opportunity for our young persons in Grade 6 and younger.

+Following worship, everyone present will be invited to join in a “picnic” lunch in the high school cafeteria and adjacent outside seating area. Each of the organizing congregations is contributing food items for this cost-free meal, and each household attending is being asked to bring along a dessert and a drink to share.



A Letter from The Pastor..... Cont.

+Following this luncheon time, at approximately 12:30 P.M., everyone will be invited to return to the auditorium for a concert of religious music.

+**Carol Hubler and Judy Ferree will be leading all interested St. John congregational family members in two pieces as a part of this concert time – a piece for men's voices and a piece for all voices. Rehearsals for these two songs will be held at the church on Mondays, July 24, July 31, and August 7, with the men rehearsing from 7:00 to 7:30 and all voices from 7:30 to 8:00 P.M.**

+There is also an opportunity for all interested folks to sing as part of a *Greater Elizabethville Community Choir*, under the direction of Mrs. Kasey Campbell of Salem Lutheran Church in Elizabethville, rehearsals for which will begin at Salem Lutheran from 7:00 to 8:00 P.M. on Wednesday, June 28. *(Please note that there was a deadline of June 25 for signing up for this choir but, if you didn't get a chance to sign up and are interested in participating, please speak with me.)*

Please don't hesitate to see me about any other questions you might have about August 13!

Pastor Tom

News from Miss Laurie

Happy July everyone! It's now OFFICIALLY summer and I know what you're all thinking about.....VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL!! Or maybe that's just me!

Whatever the case, it IS that time again, and we are anxiously preparing for an awesome adventure!! The theme this year is, "Hero Central", where we will discover our strength in God! Thanks to everyone who has volunteered* to help! Mark your calendars – **July 17th through July 21st from 6:30 to 8:45 pm** – and join in the fun!!

Registration for VBS has begun! You can register your child one of 3 ways: via the St. John's website; by email (through an attachment in Pastor Tom's weekly email or my "A word from Miss Laurie"); by hardcopy (papers available in church foyer and in "Celebration Central" – front of Sunday School). Thank you, in advance, for getting those registrations in BEFORE the 17th!!

If you'd like to donate any snack items for VBS, please check out the donation chart in "Celebration Central" or in the foyer. This year, "Hero Snacks" will be a part of our rotational activities, so we will be looking for specific ingredients! Any donations will be greatly appreciated!!

Also, in an attempt to prevent unsupervised children from running off to the playground, we are asking you to come INSIDE to pick up your child after VBS! You can join us inside for some fun closing activities (8:30-8:45)! Thanks for your cooperation!!

I am super-psyched to begin our journey to discovering what makes us truly heroic in God! Come join the adventure!!

*It is church policy and state law that all VBS volunteers have their clearances from child abuse. Please see me or Karen Gehring for more information.

Miss Laurie

Miss Laurie's Office Hours:

Wednesday 2:00 P.M. – 5:00 P.M. Monday & Friday 9:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M.

St. John's Facebook:
facebook.com/stjohnhillchurch

St. John's Children and Youth Ministry:
facebook.com/childrenandyouthministry



You can find the VBS Registration form on pg. 5

New History Books Now Available!!

After many years of hard work by Helen Henninger, Lois Lesher, David Neagley and the late Sara Neagley, and including contributions from many congregational family members, the newest St. John history volume, ***The Two Hundred Twenty-Fifth Anniversary Celebration and Congregation History 1980-2010*** is now available for the purchase, with all proceeds going into the History and Anniversary Fund, which will provide seed money down the road for the 250th Anniversary Celebration in 2030. The

new volume, with color illustrations and laminated cover, is available for \$15 by contacting Helen or Lois or by watching for Sunday mornings during the summer when the sale table will be up and running in the Sunday School Room following worship. Also available for purchase are two previous history books, published in 1955 (limited numbers available) and 1980. The 1955 volume by itself is \$7, the 1980 volume is \$5, and the entire set of three is available for \$25.

It's Soon yard sale Time Again

Once again this year, all proceeds from our Annual Yardsale will go to the Domestic Disaster Fund of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America. The sale will take place in the



pavilion on Thursday, August 10, from 9:00 A.M. - ?; Friday, August 11, from 9:00 A.M. - ?; and Saturday, August 12, from 9:00 A.M. - 12:00 Noon. Help will also be needed with setting up for the Yardsale, traditionally on the preceding Tuesday

and Wednesday, as well as with the packing up of any leftovers, traditionally on the following Monday, but please contact Lorraine Henninger (717.362.9108) for details on these times. For now, please be thinking about when you might sign up to staff the yardsale and start gathering AND PRICING those treasures that you will have for sale!



VBS Registration Form

Student's Name _____

Parent/Family/Guardian Name _____

Address _____

E-mail Address _____

Phone Numbers Home _____ Cell _____ Work _____

Date of birth _____ Age _____

Last school grade completed _____

Home Church _____

Friends of your child at this church _____

Allergies/Medical Information/Other

Emergency Contacts

Name _____ Phone _____

Name _____ Phone _____

Dismissal Information

Name(s) of person(s) who may pick up this child from VBS

Other Information (church use only)

Hero Group _____

Are parents/guardians/family members helping with VBS Hero Central? _____

If yes, where? _____

★ IF your child has Special Needs, please also Fill out the Form on the back! ★

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.

Congratulations to Our Graduates

In addition to the college graduations reported last month, we celebrate with **Allison Mace, Bryce Roadcap, Blair**



Warner and their families upon their graduations from Upper Dauphin Area High School on June 6, and with **Cory Shade** upon his graduation from Messiah College's Graduate Program with his Masters Degree in Counseling. We pray God's blessing on these folks as

they celebrate these milestones and look to new opportunities and challenges. **If we have missed any congregational family graduates, or if there are corrections or additional information to be shared, please contact Pastor Tom and it will be included in future *Epistles*.**

Pastoral Acts

At the Font

On the Day of Pentecost, Sunday, June 4, Pastor Tom presided as five of our young members, who had previously completed two years of instruction with him, made affirmation of their baptisms and were confirmed: **Lilly Boyer, Serene Boyer, Gracie Gehring, Owen Mattern and Kinsley Schreffler**. May God bless these sisters and brothers in this faith milestone!

At the Altar

On Saturday, June 3, Pastor Tom, along with Pastor Allen Briggs of Davids Community Bible Church presided at the marriage of **Cory Shade and Rachel Rothermel** at the church. We pray God's blessing on Cory and Rachel, that they may each be given the grace and strength to faithfully live out their vows of commitment!

... And Newlyweds

Devin Radel was joined in marriage to **Nicole Deitrich** at the Stoltzfus Homestead and Garden in Intercourse, PA on Saturday, May 20. Following a honeymoon trip, the couple is residing in the Lancaster area. Congratulations to Devin and Nikki (and to the whole Radel Family) – may God bless both bride and groom with the grace and strength to remain faithful to their vows of love and commitment!

Bicentennial Choir Rehearsal

ELIZABETHVILLE BICENTENIAL SAVE THE DATE: August 13, 2017

Following the Community Worship Service and luncheon, St John's Senior Choir and Men's Choir will be participating in an afternoon concert, beginning @ 1 pm and located in the UDA auditorium.

Each choir will be presenting one selection. We would like to invite any member of St. Johns who ever thought they might like to be a choir participant, but hesitated because of the long-term commitment, to consider joining our core choir members for this exciting celebration.

We are planning to have three rehearsals on consecutive Mondays as follows:

July 24 and 31
August 7

Men's Choir @ 7 pm
All @ 7:30 pm

Even if you can only make one rehearsal, please consider joining us. We have the capability of providing a recording of the music, via email, that you can listen to on your own (and be super prepared!!).

In order to ensure we have enough music, please notify Pastor Tom, Judy Ferree, or Carol Hubler of your willingness to participate before July 23rd. ALL ARE WELCOME.



Summer Schedule

Adult and Jr./Sr. High Sunday School at 8:45

*A.M., with no opening, so
that we simply join in the
regular half-hour Bible
Study session, ending by
about 9:15 and*

***Worship at 9:30 A.M.,
ending promptly by 10:30 so
that everyone can get on to
those reunions and other
summer Sunday plans***

July Worship Schedule

Altar Guild for Month of July
Lector for Month of July

Carol & Mike Hubler
Carl Baumgardner

Usher's for the Month of July: Carl Baumgardner (L)
Louise BaumgardnerE), Barry Williard and Kim Williard(LAY)

July 2, 2017

**OUTDOOR WORSHIP
Holy Communion**

Greeter

John and Connie Shaffer

July 9, 2017

Greeter

Karen Rickert

July 16, 2017

Greeter

Robert and Faye Weaver

July 23, 2017

OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Greeter

Lynn and Helen Henninger

July 30, 2017

Greeter

Janet and Darrel Denlinger

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>July 2017</div>						
24th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult and Jr/Sr High Sunday School 9:30 OUTDOOR WORSHIP – Colonial Order with Holy Communion 9:30 SONDay Celebration	3 Thomas, Apostle	4 Pastor Tom Taking Monthly Extra Day Off Independence Day	5 7:00 Elizabethtown Community Choir Rehearsal at Salem Lutheran, Elizabethtown	6	7	8 Pastor Tom's Day Off 7:00 – 9:00 A.M. Men's Prayer Group Meets at the Church – Please Contact Ray Matter for More Information
9th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult and Jr/Sr High Sunday School 9:30 Liturgy of the Word 9:30 SONDay Celebration 10:30 Mutual Ministry Committee Meeting 4:00 Congregational Council Meeting Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East	10 9:00 Upper Dauphin Conference Reformation Anniversary Quilt Meeting 7:30 Summer Church Dartball Match at Faith United Methodist, Fisherville <i>Pastor Tom at Seminary in Gettysburg for Continuing Education Class from the Afternoon of the 10th Through the Evening of the 13th</i>	11 6:30 Cub Scout Pack Committee Meeting	12	13	14	15 Pastor Tom's Day Off
16th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult and Jr/Sr High Sunday School 9:30 Liturgy of the Word 9:30 SONDay Celebration	17 6:30 – 8:45 Vacation Bible School	18 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg. 6:30 – 8:45 Vacation Bible School	19 6:30 – 8:45 Vacation Bible School	20 6:30 – 8:45 Vacation Bible School	21 6:30 – 8:45 Vacation Bible School	22 Mary Magdalene, Apostle Pastor Tom's Day Off
23rd Sunday after Pentecost 10:00 Vacation Bible School Closing Program (Outdoors in Pavilion) 11:30 Annual Sunday School Picnic	24 7:00 Rehearsal for St. John Musical Pieces for August 13 (Men 7:00-7:30, All Voices 7:30 – 8:00)	25 James, Apostle 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg.	26 7:00 Elizabethtown Community Choir Rehearsal at Salem Lutheran, Elizabethtown	27 10:00 Pastor Tom at Elizabethtown Bicentennial Worship Planning Meeting	28	29 Pastor Tom's Day Off
30th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult and Jr/Sr High Sunday School 9:30 Liturgy of the Word 9:30 SONDay Celebration 2:00 Elizabethtown Bicentennial Children's Choir Rehearsal at St. John, with Miss Laurie Directing	31					

August Worship Schedule

Altar Guild for Month of August
Lector for Month of August

Jean and Fred Weaver
Ray and Joyce Matter

Usher's for the Month of August: Tammy Spicher (L) Lois Watson (E),
Matthew and Olivia Williard(LAY)

August 6, 2017
OUTDOOR WORSHIP

Greeter

Jeff Buffington

August 13, 2017
Bicentennial Worship

Greeter

Harold and Pat Herb

August 20, 2017
OUTDOOR WORSHIP
Old Fashion Hymn Sing

Greeter

Fred and Jean Weaver

August 27, 2017

Greeter

The Clint Gehring Family

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<div>August 2017</div>						
6 9th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult and Jr/Sr High Sunday School 9:30 OUTDOOR WORSHIP 9:30 SONDay Celebration	7 7:00 Rehearsal for St. John Musical Pieces for August 13 (Men 7:00-7:30, All Voices 7:30 – 8:00)	8 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg. 6:30 Cub Scout Pack Committee Meeting	9 Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East 6:15 Faith Formation Team Gathering 7:00 Elizabethville Bicentennial Community Choir Rehearsal at Salem Lutheran, Elizabethville	10 1:30 Pastor Tom Leads Worship at Polk Assisted Living, Millersburg 9:00 – ?? Annual Congregational Yardsale for Domestic Disaster Relief	11 9:00 – ?? Annual Congregational Yardsale for Domestic Disaster Relief	12 Pastor Tom's Day Off 7:00 – 9:00 A.M. Men's Prayer Group Meets at the Church – Please Contact Ray Matter for More Information 9:00 – 12:00 Annual Congregational Yardsale Concludes
13 10th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult and Jr/Sr High Sunday School (at St. John) 10:30 Elizabethville Bicentennial Worship (at Upper Dauphin Area High School Auditorium – with Luncheon to Follow in Cafeteria) 12:30 Elizabethville Bicentennial Religious Concert (at UDAHS Auditorium)	14 7:30 Summer Church Dartball League Match at Lykens United Methodist Church	15 Mary, Mother of Our Lord <i>Deadline to Submit Items for September "St. John's Epistle"</i>	16	17	18	19 12:00 St. John Float in Elizabethville Bicentennial Parade
20 11th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult and Jr/Sr High Sunday School 9:30 OUTDOOR WORSHIP Old-Fashioned Hymn Sing (Guest Worship Leader Mr. James Watson) 9:30 SONDay Celebration	21 Returning to the office on August 24.	22	23	24 Bartholomew, Apostle <i>Pastor Tom Returns to the Office</i>	25	26 Pastor Tom's Day Off
27 12th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult and Jr/Sr High Sunday School 9:30 Liturgy of the Word, with Sacrament of Holy Baptism 9:30 SONDay Celebration	28	29 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg.	30			

<u>Pastor's Office Hours:</u> Mon, Tues - 8:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. Wed, Thurs - 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon Friday 8:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. (<i>Other times by appointment</i>)	The Rev. Thomas Bruner, Jr.	Pastor	Stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com	717-362-9519 (O)
				717-362-7895 (H)
	Laurie Little	Young Christians Minister	misslaurie.little@gmail.com	717-365-3255 (H)
				717-571-5058 (C)
	Tammy & Bill Becker	Sexton	No Email	717-319-0703
	Judith Ferree	Organist	jjferree@epix.net	717-362-4228
	Carol Hubler	Choir Director	Mchubler@gmail.com	570-758-5052
	Rebecca Conte	Secretary	Rlkconte06@gmail.com	570-262-2664
	Daniel Langhans	Council President	langhans@pa.net	717-365-3794
	Fay Nichols	Prayer Chain Coordinator	Fnichols46@comcast.net	717-599-8990

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

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 270 Berrysburg, PA 17005

Church Website: www.stjohnhillchurch.org

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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE