

ST. JOHN'S EPISTLE

Dear Friends in Jesus,

By the time you are reading these lines, we will be in the thick of summer. For many of us, that means increased travel, especially on the weekends. Heading north to a family cottage, taking the camper to a favorite campground, even heading across the country – the change of pace and scenery that are the stuff of wonderful summer memories!

But as you enjoy that change of pace and scenery, one thing that shouldn't and doesn't have to change is the weekly rhythm of worship with fellow Christians. Being too far away to make it back here to your congregational family home for worship doesn't mean that you have to miss being fed in worship. Even in the most remote places, we are never more than a reasonable drive from a Sunday gathering of fellow Christians. And many state parks, national parks, and private campgrounds offer Sunday worship opportunities – Ann and I spent several summers in our younger years involved in this work. Please let me know if I can ever be of help in locating a Lutheran Christian congregational family near where you are headed – or you can use the congregational locator tool on elca.org. And if there isn't a Lutheran Christian gathering nearby, no problem! It can be a great and invigorating experience to be in worship with Christians from another branch of the One Christian Family. Please let me know about the experiences you have – and bring along a bulletin if you think of it. Above all, don't miss out!

And speaking of worship, as you hopefully already know, on Sunday evening, July 28, at 7:00 we will have the honor of hosting the official Ber-rysburg/Mifflin Township Bicentennial Worship, which will kick off an historic week-long celebration. Included in this *St. John's Epistle* is an item from Carol Hubler and Judy Ferree including a rehearsal schedule for a community teen/adult choir. Also, there is information about the community children's choir that will be led by Miss Laurie and Louise Baumgardner. And in the weeks ahead, I will be looking for folks to serve as greeters and ushers and Matt Williard will be seeking persons to help him with a parking team for that evening. Please stay tuned – and don't forget that, after the worship which we anticipate lasting no more than an hour, we will all make our way out to the pavilion for an old-fashioned ice cream social to end the evening.

May your travels be safe ones, and your homecomings joyful ones!

PASTOR TOM



PASTORAL ACTS

At the Font

On the Day of Pentecost, Sunday, June 9, Pastor Tom presided as **R.J. Henry** and **Landon Mace**, who had previously completed two years of instruction with him, made affirmation of their baptisms and were confirmed. May God bless these Brothers in Christ in this faith milestone!

CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR GRADUATES!

Congratulations to **Shannon Motter**, who received her Bachelor of Science in Nursing degree from Mansfield University and is already hard at work as a Registered Nurse at UPMC Pinnacle Community Osteopathic Hospital in Harrisburg!

And we also celebrate with our two newest high school graduates – **Reyann Cheatham** from the SciTech Campus of Harrisburg High School on June 9 and **Ryan Henninger** from Upper Dauphin Area High School on June 5. Pastor Tom had the honor of presenting our *St. John Scholarship for Faith and Education* to both Reyann and Ryan on their class award nights, held May 9 and June 4, respectively.

We pray God's blessing on these folks and their families as they celebrate these milestones and look to new opportunities and challenges. If any congregational family graduates have been missed, or if there are corrections or additional information to be shared, please contact Pastor Tom and it will be included in a future *Epistle*.

AND TO OUR NEWLYWEDS!

Miana Erdman and **Matthew Gessner** were joined in marriage on Saturday, June 15, at the Broad Mountain Vineyard Event Venue in Armstrong Valley. Since Pastor Tom was out of town, Pastor Godfred Effisah officiated at the ceremony in his absence. We pray God's richest blessings on Miana and Matt as they live out their vows of faithfulness!



News from Miss Laurie

Young Christians Minister

Happy July, everyone! I hope you're all enjoying the warm weather, holiday festivities and vacation-time! AND I hope you plan to include our fun activities among your summer plans!

With school over and summer underway, that can only mean one thing.....it's time for Vacation Bible School! This year our theme is "To Mars and Beyond"! Come join us as we discover how far God's love can take us! Hopefully this year, the weather will cooperate, and we'll get the whole week in. No matter what, VBS is ALWAYS a great time! If you're interested in helping, please let me know. Remember, it takes a village!!!!

In addition to VBS, we have lots of other fun activities planned, so please mark your calendars and remember these dates in July and August:

July 22nd – July 25th, 6:30 – 8:45 pm - "To Mars and Beyond" VBS

Sunday, July 28th, 10:00 am - VBS Sunday and Sunday School Picnic

Sunday, July 28th, 7:00 pm - Berrysburg Bicentennial Worship Service here at St. Johns – the "Strawberry Jammers" will be performing during the service

Saturday, August 3rd, 2:00 pm - Berrysburg Bicentennial Parade - the "Strawberry Jammers" will be singing on our SONday Celebration float

Friday, August 9th, 6:00 pm – Water Fun Night – "Slip-n-Slide" your way to a good time

It's always fun getting together with your church family, so I hope you'll be able to join us for ALL of these great activities!

In the mean time, enjoy the rest of your summer, and DON'T forget the sunscreen!! As always, see you at the Celebration!!

Miss Laurie

The Youth Group is interested in fixing up the outhouse area. Painting it and possibly adding another pollinator garden.

If anyone has any materials that are extra or laying around please let us know!

Summer Schedule

July 23-27 - VBS

*July 30 - Youth group
Fun Night*

*Aug 3 - Drink Wagon at
Berrysburg Bicentennial
Parade*



St. John's Youth Group

Presents...

Our Little Caesars® Pizza Kit Fundraiser!

It's **Pizza!Pizza!®** time! Time for you, your friends, and your family to get your Little Caesars® Pizza Kits! Have them on hand for quick dinners, parties or entertaining! Buy several Kits and stock your freezers! We are asking everyone to sell 10 Kits to reach our goal. Thanks!

Purchase your order with any youth group member OR

Pay for your order at PizzaKit.com. You will have the option to pay via credit card for your personal purchase.

Place your orders online and pay by credit card.

Go to PizzaKit.com

Click on '**Products**', then click on '**Shop**'

Select **Ship My Order to the Group**

Enter **Fundraiser ID # 370639**

Follow prompts to create your User ID

Do not submit these orders on any Order Form you turn in to your chairperson.

Online ordering questions? Call Little Caesars Customer Care Team

at (888) 452-5487 from 8:30am – 8:00pm EST

ALL ORDERS MUST BE SUBMITTED NO LATER THAN JULY 14!

DELIVERY/ PICKUP WILL BE JULY 23, 2019!

Summer Lutheran Baseball Nights

"Saturday, August 24th is the next Lutheran Camping Night at the Harrisburg Senators!! Tickets are \$11.00 each and \$4.00 from each ticket sale goes to the Lutheran Camping Corporation to benefit Camp Kirchenwald and Camp Nawakwa. Not only is it Lutheran Camping Night, it is also breast cancer awareness night. Wear your pink to help PAINT THE PARK PINK and show your support in the fight against breast cancer. The Senators will be wearing special pink jerseys which will be auctioned off during the game to benefit the American Cancer Society. If you are one of the first 1,000 fans (13 years or older), you will receive a free Senators breast cancer awareness t-shirt. Ticket orders must be received in the Senators' office by August 10th. Please see the newsletter for the flyer from the Senators, which includes the ticket order form. Any questions, see Olivia Williard for help."





Join us for VBS
July 22nd - 26th

6:30 P.M. - 8:45 P.M.
At St. John's Lutheran Church
The "Hill Church", in Berrysburg

For More Information or to register call Miss Laurie @ 717-571-5058

OUR MISSION

*St. John
congregation,
responding to
the call of the
Holy Spirit
through the Gos-
pel, unites to-
gether to preach
and teach the
Word, adminis-
ter the sacra-
ments, 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 togeth-
er for justice and
peace, and car-
ing for those in
need in our com-
munity and
world. We in-
vite everyone
to join us wher-
ever you are on
your faith
journey.*

Congregational Directory Updates

Please make the following second set of changes and additions in order to keep your congregational directory, received back in January of 2018, up to date. (A first set of updates was published in the September, 2018 ***St. John's Epistle***):

Changes/Corrections:

- +New telephone number for Jeff Buffington: 717-350-6719
- +New telephone numbers for Jeff & Heidi Lehman: 570-590-0869 and 570-590-6066, respectively
- +Add spouse (Elena Werth) to listing for Eli Hassinger and add telephone number: 717-903-5320
- +Remove Rachel Denlinger from directory following her transfer to a congregation in Elizabethtown
- +New street address for Timothy & (Dianne) Enders: 23 South Moore Street
- +Remove Helen Schade from directory following her death
- +New mailing address for Kellie Shoop and family: 215 Cherry Town Road, Dornsife, PA 17823
- +New mailing address for Judith Cheatham: 420 Woodbine St., Harrisburg, PA 17110
- +New telephone number for Fay Nichols: 717-329-7447
- +Remove Rosena Barry from directory following her death
- +With his marriage, please remove Daniel Bruner from Pastor Tom and Ann's listing in the directory and create a new listing:

BRUNER, Dr. Daniel & (Dr. Richelle Demers)
6160 Springford Drive, Apt. B8
Harrisburg, PA 17111
717-433-8052

- +Remove Harry Weaver, Jr. from directory following his death
- +Add spouse (Scott Howard) to listing for Connie Erdman Enders
- +New mailing address for Sue Lebo: Rm. #36, Stonebridge Health and Rehab. Center, 102 Chandra Drive, Duncannon, PA 17020
- +With her marriage, please remove Callie Spicher from Tamara Spicher's listing in the directory and create a new listing:

FENNINGER, Callie & (Kyle)
1545 English Drive
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055

- +New address (location and mailing) for Dawn Warner: Halifax Village LLC, 66 Kip Road, Halifax, PA 17032
- +With her marriage and name change, change Miana Erdman's listing to:

GESSNER, Miana & (Matthew)

- +Remove Karen Paulman from directory following her transfer to a congregation in Western New York

New Member Households Received on June 16:

ANTES, Ira & Marilyn
225 Romberger Road
Elizabethville, PA 17023
717-362-9800

DANIELS, Gary & Terri (Associate Member)
236 North Street
Millersburg, PA 17061
717-692-1028

THOMAS, Wayne & Daisy
138 Lebo Street
Elizabethville, PA 17023
717-418-1015 (Daisy) 484-221-1529 (Wayne)

COMMUNITY CHOIRS



As part of the Berrysburg Bicentennial celebration, a community worship service will be held at our church on Sunday, July 28th at 7 pm. Two choirs will provide special music for this service – a teen/adult choir and a children’s choir. We are especially seeking those who live in Berrysburg or Mifflin Twp. **or** who are members of the churches in Berrysburg/Mifflin Twp. **All** welcome to join in this choral celebration.

The teen/adult choir will rehearse at St Johns on:

Tuesday, July 2nd @ 7:30 pm

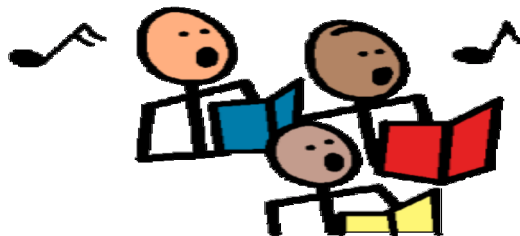
Thursday, July 18th @ 7:30 pm

Tuesday, July 23rd @ 7:30 pm

We will be singing one anthem. In addition, the sopranos will be providing a lovely descant to our final hymn, “A Mighty Fortress Is Our God”. Copies will be shared at the first rehearsal. However, if you need a copy beforehand, please let us know. If you have any questions or need additional information, please contact Judy Ferree at 717-362-4228 or Carol Hubler at 570-578-5052. All voice parts and all ages are welcome.

The children’s choir is under the direction of Laurie Little. If your children love to sing and are not already part of the Celebration Choir, please contact Miss Laurie at 717-365-3255.

An old fashioned ice cream social will be held outside in our pavilion at the conclusion of the worship service. Please join us in this special celebration.



The First Step
Poem by Robert Phillips

Do you ever wonder what God thinks
When we're unwilling to forgive?
When we allow some incident in life,
To control the way we live?
When a relationship is broken,
Do we ask God what we can do?
For someone must take the first step,
Will that someone be you?

The condition grows more difficult,
If we allow our pride to reign,
It will reinforce our thinking,
Relieving us of any blame.
But, suppose the other party,
Feels just the way you do,
Then, who will take the first step,
Will that someone be you?

If the first step remains untaken,
Then, the picture is complete.
Pride has emerged the winner,
Love must concede defeat.
Which course then, do we follow?
What does God want us to do?
Someone must take the first step,
Will that someone be you?



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! ★

July Worship Schedule

July Gifts

Celebrate Inserts -

Tom and Donna

Rabenold

Tree & Hope

Shannon and Lori

Motter

Konde Diocese -

Lynn and Helen

Henninger

Altar Flowers

July 7

Outdoor Worship

July 14

Outdoor Worship

July 21

Sheila and Brian Barder

July 28

Outdoor Worship

**as of print date,
subject to change*

Lector
Altar Guild

Carl Baumgardner
Mike and Carol Hubler

Usher's for the Month of July: Darrell Denlinger (L), Carl Baumgardner (E),
Louise Baumgardner and Faye Weaver (LAY)

July 7, 2019
Outdoor Worship
Colonial Order

Greeter

Pat and Harold Herb

July 14, 2019
Outdoor Worship

Greeter

Fred and Jean Weaver

July 21, 2019

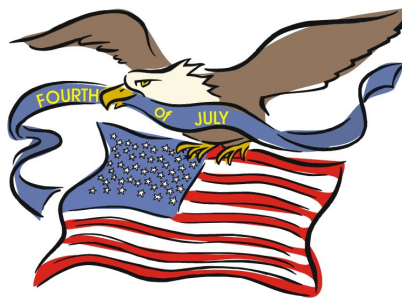
Greeter

The Clint Gehring Family

July 28, 2019
Outdoor Worship
VBS Closing Program

Greeter

Jeff and Heidi Lehman



August Worship Schedule

August Gifts

Tree 4 Hope -
Delmar and Ginny

Enders

Celebrate Inserts
Matt & Olivia Williard

Lector
Altar Guild

Ray and Joyce Matter
Mike and Carol Hubler

Usher's for the Month of August: Carol Hassinger (L), John Ferree (E),
Dale Hassinger & Randy Paul (LAY)

August 4, 2019 Holy Communion

Greeter

Ronald and Bonnie Erb

August 11, 2019

Greeter

John and Judy Ferree

August 18, 2019 Outdoor Worship

Greeter

Delmar & Ginny Enders

August 25, 2019

Greeter

Craig Shade Family

Altar Flowers

Aug 4

Aug 11

Matt and Olivia
Williard

Aug 18 -

Outdoor Worship

Aug 25

**as of print date,*
subject to change

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
August 2019						
				1	2	3 St. John Congregational Family Participating in Berrysburg/Mifflin Twp. Bicentennial Parade
4 8th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Liturgy of Holy Communion 9:30 SONDay Celebration for Grades 4 & Younger	5	6 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conference Pastors Meeting	7	8	9 <i>Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East</i> Water Fun Night with Miss Laurie	10 Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
11 9th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Liturgy of the Word 9:30 SONDay Celebration for Grades 4 & Younger 10:30 Youth Group Advisor Monthly Meeting	12 7:30 Summer Church Dartball Match at Lykens United Meth- odist Church	13 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conference Pastors Meeting 6:00 Faith Formation Team Gathering	14	15 Mary, Mother of Our Lord <i>Deadline to Submit Items for September "St. John's Epistle"</i>	16	17 Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
18 10th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 OUTDOOR WORSHIP with Sunny Sermon by Miss Laurie 9:30 SONDay Celebration for Grades 4 & Younger	19	20 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg.	21	22	23	24 Bartholomew, Apostle Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off 6:00 Lutheran Camping Night with the Harris- burg Senators
25 11th Sunday after Pentecost 8:45 Adult Sunday School 9:30 Liturgy of the Word 9:30 SONDay Celebration for Grades 4 & Younger	26	27 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg.	28	29	30	31 Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Pastor's Office

Hours:

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.
(Other times by
appointment)

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 Becker	Sexton	No Email	717-319-0703
Judith Ferree	Organist	jferree@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	717-329-7447

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

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P.O. Box 270
Berrysburg, PA 17005

PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE

