

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

911 Emergency/GPS Location:

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For US Mail Deliveries:

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717-362-9519

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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.

Laurie Little

Judy Ferree

Ty Troutman

Roy and Rachel Henry

Joshua Paul

Christie Kahler

Joshua Paul

Pastor

Young Christians Minister

Keyboardist

Senior Choir Director

Greeters

Lector

Lead Usher

Council President

For the month of June:

Our support of the **Celebrate Insert** is sponsored by Mike and Carol Hubler in celebration of the birthdays for Esther, Shelley, Carol and June. And, for all things bright and wonderful, the Lord God made them all!

Tree 4 Hope is sponsored by Tim & Lori Motter in celebration of the graduate degrees for Nicholas Motter from University of the Arts in Philadelphia and Abby Francisco from Regis College in Boston.

Our support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania** is presented by Sadie for her mom Tonya's birthday and by Ayden for his dad Bryan'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 our congregational family activities!

Outdoor Worship Liturgy

God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Keyboard Prelude and Silent Prayer

*Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, abounding in steadfast love toward us, healing the sick and raising the dead, showering us with every good gift.

C: **AMEN.**

P: Let us confess our sin in the presence of God and of one another.

(brief silence follows)

P: Just and gracious God,

C: **WE COME TO YOU FOR HEALING AND LIFE. OUR SINS HURT OTHERS AND DIMINISH US; WE CONFESS THEM TO YOU. OUR LIVES BEAR THE SCARS OF SIN; WE BRING THESE ALSO TO YOU. SHOW US YOUR MERCY, O GOD. BIND UP OUR WOUNDS, FORGIVE US OUR SINS, AND FREE US TO LOVE, FOR THE SAKE OF JESUS CHRIST, OUR SAVIOR. AMEN.**

P: The Apostle Paul assures us: "When we were dead in our trespasses, God made us alive together with Christ, nailing the record of our sins to the cross." Jesus says to us, "Your sins are forgiven." Be at peace, and tell everyone how much God has done for us.

C: **AMEN.**

*Opening Hymn **LBW** #487 "Let Us Ever Walk with Jesus"

*Greeting:

P: From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

*Prayer of the Day

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Hosea 5:15-6:6

Psalm: 50:7-15

Second Reading: Romans 4:13-25

*Gospel: Matthew 9:9-13, 18-26

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

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

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.**

*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: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord's face shine upon us with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

C: **AMEN**

*Dismissal:

P: Go in peace. Proclaim the good news

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

*Closing Hymn **LBW** #494 "Jesus Calls Us; O'er the Tumult"

*Keyboard Postlude and We Depart to Serve

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* Please stand, if able to do so.

Today, Sunday, June 11

8:45 A.M. Adult Bible Study (In-Person)

9:30 A.M. SONDay Celebration (In-Person)

9:30 A.M. **Outdoor Worship** in the Pavilion (In-Person and On Zoom)

Monday, June 12

8:00 – 9:30 A.M. Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Tuesday, June 13

8:00 – 9:30 A.M. Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Wednesday, June 14

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Thursday, June 15

Deadline to Submit Items for Combined July/August "St. John's Epistle"

8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M. Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Friday, June 16

8:00 – 9:30 A.M. Pastor Tom's Office Hours

Saturday, June 17

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, June 18

Third Sunday after Pentecost

8:45 A.M. Adult Bible Study (In-Person)

9:30 A.M. SONDay Celebration (In-Person)

9:30 A.M. **Outdoor Worship** in the Pavilion, Including a Sunny Sermon with Miss Laurie (In-Person and On Zoom) ***(We will have approximately 100 metal chairs set up in advance, but anyone who would prefer to do so is also welcome to bring along their own camp chairs to create their own seating. Please keep in mind that this will be an outdoor service on a Hill known for its cool breezes – be sure to dress warmly and bring a sweater or jacket!)***

Looking Ahead

Youth Group will hold a gathering on Monday evening, June 19.

There will be a ***Drive-in Movie Night with Miss Laurie*** on Friday, June 23, on the field across from the pavilion.

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For Strawberry Festival donations again this year, we were simply requesting monetary donations for all items. This is because the different committees who are responsible for the preparation of various food items could make much more cost-effective purchases by buying supplies in bulk, often at wholesale outlets, allowing us all to be the best possible stewards of everyone's time and hard-earned money. Therefore, if you would still wish to make a gift in support of the Festival, please consider taking the amount of money that you might have used in the past to go shopping for Festival items, placing it in a plain envelope showing your name and offering envelope number – checks payable to “St. John Bicentennial Fund” please – and dropping it in the offering plate or passing it along to Lynn Henninger or Jeff Lehman or Pastor Tom.

The wrap-up meeting for our Annual Strawberry Festival will be held on Tuesday, June 27, at 7:00 P.M. at the church – all interested folks are invited to attend!

A sponsor is needed for the July 2 altar flowers (\$35; signup sheet posted on south closet door in the foyer; the first time in many years that we have needed altar flowers for the holiday weekend since we will be inside for worship this year). To sponsor this ministry in honor or in memory of loved ones or events, please either sign up in person or, if easier, please feel free to call or email Pastor Tom, who can take care of signing you up.

Book Group - Summer 2023

Join us for some light summer reading! We'll read the first 3 titles in each of these 2 series, and then we'll discuss them at an Evening Picnic on Monday, August 21, 6:30 pm in the Pavilion:

- **The Mitford Years Series** by Jan Karon (**At Home in Mitford; A Light in the Window; These High, Green Hills**)
- **The No. 1 Ladies' Detective Agency Series** by Alexander McCall Smith (**The No. 1 Ladies Detective Agency; Tears of the Giraffe; Morality for Beautiful Girls**)

Choose to read one of the series... or all 6 books. A few copies are available for sharing in the church library - and more at your local public library, both physical copy and ebook. If you have questions or need to locate a book, please contact Ann (rahbruner@gmail.com). Everyone is welcome!

To make sure that our blessed prayer shawls get to as many folks in need of God's healing touch as possible, it is now possible for anyone from the St. John congregational family to deliver a prayer shawl to a person who is known to them to be hurting in body, mind, and/or spirit, and who would be blessed by receiving one of our shawls. To obtain a shawl, please first contact Pastor Tom, who will help you with the process. ***(Please bear in mind that it is the intention of the prayer shawl ministry that each person receive just one shawl “for life”, to be used in whatever time(s) of brokenness they may face.)***

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.

Our Faith Active in Worship – June 4, 2023

<i>Current – Budget Goal</i>	\$2,796
Current – Offerings Received	\$1,756
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$475
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$70
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$310
Total Attendance	Zoom –20, In Person – 90

“St John’s Restoration 250” Financial Update – As of June 4, 2023

Final Total Project Cost (under \$220,000 Budgeted)	\$216,795
Memorials Interest Money Expended for Project	\$82,380
	(under \$88,000 Budgeted)
Total Financial Gifts Received	\$13,145
Total Financial Gifts Pledged, Not Yet Received	\$11,270

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** – Penn State Hershey Medical Center
- **Jean & Fred Weaver** – In Need of Prayer