

### 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](mailto:pt@stjohnhillchurch.org) | [www.stjohnhillchurch.org](http://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
Youth Bible Group	Greeters
Reyann Cheatham	Lector
Tanner and Abby Bixler	Acolytes
Joshua Paul	Lead Usher/Council President

For the month of March, 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 Brian and Sheila Barder.

This week’s **Altar Flowers** are presented in honor of the Elwood and Mildred Boyer Memorial.

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

Girl Scout Sunday Observance

\*Opening Hymn #329 “As the Sun with Longer Journey”

\*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: Numbers 21:4-9

Psalmody: Psalm 107:1-3, 17-22

Second Reading: Ephesians 2:1-10

\*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: John 3:14-21

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

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

Young Persons Go with Miss Laurie for Celebration Time

Sermon

#### We Respond to All That God Gives Us

We Proclaim Our Faith:

**I BELIEVE IN GOD, THE FATHER ALMIGHTY, CREATOR OF HEAVEN AND EARTH. (THIS MEANS THAT) I BELIEVE THAT GOD HAS CREATED ME TOGETHER WITH ALL THAT EXISTS. GOD HAS GIVEN ME AND STILL PRESERVES MY BODY AND SOUL; EYES, EARS, AND ALL LIMBS AND SENSES; REASON AND ALL MENTAL FACULTIES. IN ADDITION, GOD DAILY AND ABUNDANTLY PROVIDES SHOES AND CLOTHING, FOOD AND DRINK, HOUSE AND FARM, SPOUSE AND CHILDREN, FIELDS, LIVESTOCK, AND ALL PROPERTY – ALONG WITH ALL THE NECESSITIES AND NOURISHMENT FOR THIS BODY AND LIFE. GOD PROTECTS ME AGAINST ALL DANGER AND SHIELDS AND PRESERVES ME FROM ALL EVIL. ALL THIS IS DONE OUT OF PURE, FATHERLY, AND DIVINE GOODNESS AND MERCY, WITHOUT ANY MERIT OR WORTHINESS OF MINE AT ALL! FOR ALL OF THIS I OWE IT TO GOD TO THANK AND PRAISE, SERVE AND OBEY HIM. THIS IS MOST CERTAINLY TRUE.**

-Martin Luther's *Small Catechism*

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

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#### 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 #666 “What Wondrous Love Is This”

\*Choral Dismissal Song #622 “Neither Death nor Life”

\*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

\* \* \* \* \*

\* Please stand, if able to do so.



### Today, March 10

- 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 Annual Observance of Girl Scout Sunday and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)  
6pm Congregational Council Meeting

### Monday, March 11

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours  
9-11am "Blanket Bunch" Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief  
7pm First Planning Meeting for our Annual Strawberry Festival (Since there really isn't a fixed committee and the meeting is literally made up of those interested persons who show up each time, all interested persons are (really!) invited to attend. Please don't forget that the Festival itself is planned for June 12.)  
7pm Church Darts League Playoff Match – Valleys EC Church at St. John

### Tuesday, March 12

#### **Deadline to Submit Items for March 24 Bulletin as well as March 17 Bulletin**

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours  
7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

### Wednesday, March 13

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours  
10:30am-12:30pm Upper Dauphin Conference Spring Assembly at Messiah Lutheran, Fisherville  
6:15pm Community Lenten Supper and Worship (7:00) at Trinity United Methodist Church, Elizabethtown

### Thursday, March 14

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

### Friday, March 15

#### **Deadline to Submit Items for April "St. John's Epistle"**

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

### Saturday, March 16

- Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

### Next Sunday, March 17

#### Fifth Sunday in Lent

- 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 Annual Observance of Scout Sunday and Sunny Sermon & Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)  
11:15am Immediately following worship, the members of our Equal Exchange/Fair Trade Ministry Team – Ann Bruner, Courtney Foreman, and Grayson Foreman – will host a time of fellowship downstairs for sampling and purchasing.  
4pm Creation Care Team Gathering – In Person with a Zoom Option (The team has met twice and decided on a few initial projects, including renewed/improved recycling at church and during the strawberry festival, and educational and worship projects. Everyone is invited to share ideas and resources at this gathering. If you have questions - or can't make it but have ideas to share -- please talk with Christie Kahler or Ann Bruner.)

### Looking Ahead

Worship & Music Committee will meet on Tuesday, March 19, at 6:15 A.M. at the church.

### Easter Sunrise Breakfast

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

For the month of April, sponsors are needed for our altar flowers for Sundays, April 14 & April 28 - \$35/week. To sponsor either date in honor or in memory of loved ones or events, please sign up in person on the foyer bulletin board or, if easier, please feel free to call or email Pastor Tom, who can take care of signing you up.

Pastor Tom is seeking one male voting member and one female voting member (confirmed congregational family member who has communed and contributed in this or the prior year) who do not have to be married to join him in attending this year's Annual Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly, with the theme ***The Healing of the Nations: Christ's Healing for a Broken World***. Again this year, the business of the assembly will be held in two parts – on the evening of Friday, May 31, on Zoom (and so in the comfort of your own home) and on Saturday, June 1, in-person at St. Matthew Lutheran, York. All costs for voting members are borne by our congregational family budget, so all that anyone willing to serve needs to be able to contribute is their time. Please speak with him as soon as possible to learn more.

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.

### 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
- **Patricia Herb** – UPMC Community Osteopathic, Rm. #410
- **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 now Receiving Chemotherapy Every Third Tuesday

### Our Faith Active in Worship – February 25, 2024

<b>Current – Approx. Budget Goal</b>	<b>\$3,112</b>
Current – Offerings Received	\$12,222
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$2,754
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$34
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$1,319
Total Attendance:	<b>Zoom – 20, In Person – 81</b>
<b><u>Please note that above offering figures include some one-time yearly gifts.</u></b>	

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