

## 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

[stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com](mailto:stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com) | [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
Reyann Cheatham	Lector
The Girl Scouts	Greeters
Elsie and Emily Rabenold	Acolytes
Joshua Paul	Council President

For the month of March, our support of **Tree 4 Hope** is presented by Delmar and Ginny Enders to the Glory of God in loving memory of siblings; Bernita, Jim, Cindy and Troy. Our support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania** is sponsored by LuAnn Ressler in memory of her husband Jeffery Ressler.

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 Presentation

\*Opening Hymn #597 "My Hope Is Built on Nothing Less"

\*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: Exodus 17:1-7

Psalm: 95

Second Reading: Romans 5:1-11

\*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 4:5-42

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*

Musical Anthem by Senior Choir

\*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

Pg. 208

### 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 #807 "Come Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

\*Choral Dismissal Song #622 "Neither Death nor Life"

\*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

\* \* \* \* \*

\* Please stand, if able to do so.



# St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church

Easter Flower Order Form      April 9, 2023      Stauffer's Greenhouse

\*\*Tulips and Geraniums will come in assorted colors\*\*

		Quantity	Total Cost
White Lilies	4/5 blooms: \$11.00	_____	_____
Daffodils	6" pot: \$9.00	_____	_____
Tulips	6" pot: \$9.00	_____	_____
Regal Geraniums	6" pot: \$9.00	_____	_____
<b>Order Total</b>		<b>#</b> _____	<b>\$</b> _____

.....  
Please **PRINT** desired memorial as you want it printed in the bulletin:

**Presented by:**

\_\_\_\_\_

In honor of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

In Memory of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

For the Many Blessings of:

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_

Order forms, along with payment, can be given to any Flower Fund Committee  
Member: Dana Klouser, Gail Billow, Fay Nichols or Sheila Barder

Make checks payable to: **St. John Lutheran Church**

**Absolute last day to order March 19, 2023**

## Today, Sunday, March 12

9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)  
9am Youth Group Bible Time (In-Person)  
9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)  
9am SONday Celebration (In-Person)  
10:15am Worship, Including the Observing of Girl Scout Sunday and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie (In-Person and On Zoom)

## Monday, March 13

8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours  
9am "Blanket Bunch" Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief

## Tuesday, March 14

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

## Wednesday, March 15

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

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours  
**6:15pm Community Lenten Supper and Worship (7:00) at Trinity United Methodist Church, Elizabethtown**

## Thursday, March 16

8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours

## Friday, March 17

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

## Saturday, March 18

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

## Next Sunday, March 19

Fourth Sunday in Lent/Joseph, Guardian of Jesus  
9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)  
9am Youth Group Bible Time (In-Person)  
9am Confirmation Class (In-Person)  
9am SONday Celebration (In-Person)  
10:15am Worship, Including Sunny Sermon and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie (In-Person and On Zoom)

## Looking Ahead

Upper Dauphin Conference Cabinet will meet on Monday, March 20, at 7:00pm at St. Peter Lutheran, Rt. 225, Halifax.

Worship & Music Committee will gather at the church at 6:15pm on Tuesday, March 21.

For the first time since the COVID years, an eat-in Free Community Dinner will be held at Salem United Church of Christ, Elizabethtown, on Thursday, March 23. This meal, as in a past series of Free Community Dinners, is intended to especially benefit persons who are in need of food and/or fellowship support, but there are no income guidelines or restrictions of any kind. This ministry is being supported by a number of area christian congregations, including St. John (and our representative, Fay Nichols), as well as local businesses & other organizations. Please call the church office by March 16 to sign up.

\* \* \* \* \*

### Book Group for March and April:

We'll be discussing the book *Walking the Bible* by Bruce Feiler, followed by a viewing of the movie in April: Initial Discussion on **Zoom - March 20 6:30 pm**. Please don't worry if you are still reading the book. It will be good to talk about what we're learning part way through. Thanks to Pat and Lori who plan to provide snacks that you can pick up Sunday or Monday morning at church! *Walking the Bible* movie - **April 17 6:30 pm at church**. Anyone is welcome to bring food or drink to share.

Pastor Tom is trying to determine if there is interest in bringing back our 7:00am Easter Day (April 9 this year) Breakfast, served by the men of our congregational family, for the first time since 2019. To do this, we first of all need someone willing and able to coordinate and plan the meal. To learn more, or to volunteer to serve in this way, please speak with Pastor Tom.

For the month of April, sponsors are still needed (signup sheet temporarily on the table outside of Pastor Tom's office) for our monthly ministry support for our ***Celebrate*** bulletin inserts (\$22/month), for providing one month of a ***Konde Diocese (in Tanzania, Africa) Pastors Salary*** (\$50/month), for our monthly ministry of ***Tree 4 Hope*** (\$50/month), as well as for the altar flowers for Sunday, April 9 (Easter Day) and April 30 (\$35/week, signup sheet temporarily posted on the south closet door in the foyer). To sponsor any of these ministries 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. ***Important Update About Altar Flowers: We have recently received word that our current altar flower providers, Bittersweet, will be going out of business as of the end of May. Post-COVID, there are even fewer flower options than there were pre-COVID, and so Sheila Barder and Dana Klouser, our flower committee chairpersons, have only been able to identify Burrell's as a replacement at this time. Because Burrell's charges \$7 for delivery, the weekly cost will rise with them, starting with the month of June, from \$35 to \$42. If you have already sponsored flowers in June or after and would no longer wish to do so at the higher price, please speak with either Dana or Sheila to be removed from the sign-up sheet.***

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.

Pastor Tom is seeking a male and a female voting member (confirmed congregational family members who have communed and contributed in this or the prior year and who do not have to be spouses) to join him in attending this year's Annual Lower Susquehanna Synod Assembly, with the theme ***Created for Community***. The business of the assembly will begin the evening of Friday, June 2 and conclude at the end of the day on Saturday, June 3. The Assembly will be 'hybrid,' with one of the Assembly Business days taking place via Zoom and one taking place in person. All costs for voting members are borne by our congregational family budget, so all that interested folks need to be able to contribute is their time. ***Please speak with Pastor Tom ASAP to learn more; early discounted registration ends on March 31.***

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.)***

### Our Faith Active in Worship – March 5, 2023

<b>Current – Budget Goal</b>	<b>\$2,796</b>
Current – Offerings Received	\$2,604
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$115
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$40
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$470
Total Attendance	<b>Zoom – 24, In Person – 82</b>

### “St John’s Restoration 250” Financial Update – As of March 5, 2023

Final Total Project Cost (under \$220,000 Budgeted)	\$216,795
Memorials Interest Money Expended for Project	\$83,330
	(under \$88,000 Budgeted)
Total Financial Gifts Received	\$121,375
Total Financial Gifts Pledged, Not Yet Received	\$12,090

### 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, Cadia Healthcare, 900 Van Buren Street, Annapolis, MD 21403
- **Timothy Enders** – Rm. #120, The Gardens at York Terrace, 2401 W. Market St., Pottsville, 17901
- **Jane Grosser** – Rm. #705, Northern Dauphin Nursing and Rehab. Center, Millersburg, 17061
- **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)