



SAINT JOHN'S EPISTLE

MAY 2014

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

P.O. BOX 270, BERRYSBURG, PA 17005
The Rev. Thomas G. Bruner, Jr., Pastor

Dear Friends in Jesus,

Sunday, May 4, is a day with many meanings this year! First, since it is the first Sunday of the month of May, it should come as no surprise that it will include the opportunity for us to join in celebrating Holy Communion in our morning worship.

May 4 is also the Third Sunday of Easter, or the 15th day of the Easter Season, which means that it is also a day when we continue to remind our hurting world that Easter is much more than a single day of bunnies and eggs, but instead is a 50-day celebration that is all about the cosmos-changing fact that *Christ is Risen – He is Risen Indeed!* But there is more...

Our Lord Jesus, Risen and Conquering on Easter, is ever about making all things new, and we will experience that reality in two very concrete ways on **May 4**. During our 10:15 A.M. Celebration of Holy Communion, we will, for the very first time, use our new red worship books *Evangelical Lutheran Worship*. I am very excited about this new beginning in our worship life, and I hope you are as well. And please don't worry about it being unfamiliar. For one thing, we will be using a musical setting of the liturgy that very closely resembles the one we are most familiar with from our green worship books – for another, we will simply take our time and work together to learn and make the new book as familiar and loved as the old one! **Please note that May 4 worship will include our next Children's Church, during which our Young Persons Grade 6 and younger will be excused for a special activity time, so this may help the parents among us to focus a bit more on the new page numbers and such!** (And, by the way, as you may recall, our green worship books won't simply be disappearing after May 4. We will continue to use them as our outdoor hymnals during the summer and, eventually, for our Sunday School opening time downstairs as well.)

The other manifestation of the newness of Easter on **May 4** will be a **congregational covered dish dinner following worship**. Besides being a great time to enjoy the wonderful mix of dishes and the fellowship that always goes with a congregational meal here at St. John, we will take time to hear about, ask about, and react to the final recommendations of our Prayerful Planning Group (PPG) for our congregational life together over the next five to ten years. As the PPG prepares to move from "planning mode" into "implementation mode", we want to make sure that, as much as possible, we are all on the same page. As you'll hear on May 4, this will by no means be the final time you will be hearing about and reacting to the work of the PPG. There will also be several items which will (eventually) require actual congregational meetings and votes, but that will be for another day, a little further down the road.

Spread the news – *Christ is Risen, He is Risen Indeed* – and He is up to some very exciting and surprising things here at The Hill Church!

Pastor Tom

Gangway to Galilee

AMAZING GRACE ADVENTURES



Vacation BIBLE SCHOOL REGISTRATION

July 21 - 25, 2014

6:30 PM - 8:30 PM

Name _____ Age _____

Address _____

Phone Number _____

Grade Completed _____ Parent's Name _____

All children under the age of 3 must be accompanied by an adult. Also if there are any food allergies please tell the teacher. If you are in need of more registration forms please talk to Pastor Tom, Fay Nichols or one of the Sunday School Teachers. Please return this form on or before June 30,

SPECIAL OFFERING ENVELOPE

If you are looking at a paper copy of this *St. John's Epistle*, you will find included with it a special offering envelope for a gift toward the cost of our congregational subscription plan for *The Lutheran*. If your home currently receives a subscription, the yearly cost of that subscription is a very low \$8.95 (less than half the cost of a subscription purchased individually). If you wish to make a gift, simply place your gift in the envelope and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church. If you do not receive a paper copy of the *Epistle* and would like to make a gift, please pick up an envelope in the foyer or simply place your gift in a regular envelope and mark it "*The Lutheran Subscription Offering*". Thank you for your help!

NATIONAL DAY OF PRAYER IS MAY 1

As the National Day of Prayer is observed this year on May 1, the first Thursday in May, we are all encouraged to be sure to take time that day to be in prayer for our country – that we might be a force for peace with justice, both within our own borders and throughout God's world. The church will be open all day on May 1, for anyone wishing to stop by and be in prayer in God's House.

RACHEL'S DAY OBSERVANCE

For many years, St. John has been observing "Rachel's Day" on the first Sunday in May. This day is set aside as a day to remember the children of our country and the world who live, many times, in fear and danger. It is a day to renounce the forces of evil and fear that plague our world today. It is also a day to be thankful for our children and for the love and support of their families and communities. Originally begun by the Metropolitan Chicago Synod of our Evangelical Lutheran Church in America in May of 1996, Rachel's Day receives its name from Jeremiah 31:15-17. Please consider joining in your Rachel's Day observance on Sunday, May 4, during the Sunday School opening time, at 9:00 A.M.

LOOKING AHEAD TO STRAWBERRY FESTIVAL TIME...

This year's Strawberry Festival will take place on Wednesday, June 11, in our grove and pavilion. This edition of the *St. John's Epistle* contains the updated committee listing for all of the different tasks that need to be done in order for the day to be a success. Please be sure to remove the listing and keep it handy (maybe on the refrigerator?), and please be sure to check with your committee chairperson, the overall chairpersons, or with Pastor Tom if you have any questions or concerns about your scheduled work. **The next planning meeting has been scheduled for Monday, May 5, beginning at 6:30 P.M. – everyone is welcome!**

ASCENSION DAY TO BE CELEBRATED

On Thursday evening, May 29, we will gather at 7:00 P.M. for a Liturgy of Holy Communion, in observance of The Ascension of Our Lord. This festival, coming on the 40th day of the Easter season, recalls the end of the 40 days of appearances of the Risen Jesus to his disciples, and his ascension into heaven. Worship will be held downstairs in the chapel/Sunday School room, and will include the opportunity to commune using the Common Cup. Also during this worship, we will hold the annual Blessing of Seed and Soil, as another growing season gets into full swing.

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
Congregational Council Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2014*

The Council Meeting was called to order by President Jim Watson.

Pastor Tom offered devotions.

Present – James Bullock, Jamie Doyle, Roy Henry, Ken Koller, Sandra Lamenza, Eric Mattern, Sandra Shade, Cheryl Shadle, Jim Watson and Pastor Tom

Excused Absences — Carol Hassinger, Lorraine Henninger and Jeff Lehman

Motion by Sandra Shade, 2nd by Roy Henry to accept the February Council minutes. Motion passed unanimously.

Reception of Petitions and Communications: April 28th is the Conference Spring Assembly.

We received a letter from the Elevator company detailing a cost increase of approximately \$24 for our renewal contract.

Discussed the Lenten schedule – St. John hosting 3/19 and Pastor Tom is preaching on 4/9.

Request from local YMCA for donation towards programs for kids who otherwise could not afford them. Motion by Jim Bullock, 2nd by Sandra Lamenza to give \$200 from Local Benevolence. Motion passed unanimously.

“Stop Hunger Northeast” – Synod packs meals for the hungry at Messiah College. ½ of the meals go to Central PA and ½ go to Tanzania. Asking for \$325 gift toward this \$75,000 project. Also looking for volunteers for approximately 12 hours the day before Assembly. Motion by Jamie Doyle, 2nd by Cheryl Shadle to contribute \$325 from Local Benevolence.

Pastor's Report: Motion by Eric Mattern, 2nd by Roy Henry to accept Pastor's report. Motion passed unanimously.

Pastor's Vacation schedule: 6/28-6/30 (includes Sunday 6/29)
7/28/-8/12 (includes Sundays 8/3 and 8/10)
12-31-1/8/15 (includes Sunday 1/4/15)

Jim Watson and Pastor Martine are available to cover these dates.

Motion by Sandra Lamenza, 2nd by Ken Koller to approve. Motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Reports: Motion by Roy Henry, 2nd by Sandra Lamenza to accept the treasurer's reports. Motion passed unanimously.

Reports of Standing Committees:

Church Property: Met 2/25. Purchased 500 gallons of heating oil from Snyders, Sunbury.

Finance Committee: No report

Worship & Music: Next meeting March 18 @ 6:15pm

Christian Education: Sunday School Teacher and Officers Meeting Tuesday, 3/11/14 @ 6:15pm. Looking at Bible School programs and Easter 2015.

Stewardship: No report

Evangelism: Next meeting 4/29/14.

Youth Ministry: Scholarship for graduating seniors who meet criteria scholarship which will be called "St. John Scholarship for Faith and Education. Motion by Jamie Doyle, 2nd by Eric Mattern. Motion passed unanimously. Little Caesars Fundraiser was very successful.

Mutual Ministry: Next meeting in April

Executive: No report

Nominating: No report

History Committee: The history booklet continues in process.

Green Team: Next meeting March 16 following church to briefly brainstorm next field trip.

Other Reports: Prayerful Planning Group- Four sub-committees working on their topics and preparing written reports to bring to Council in April. A congregational dinner is being planned following worship in May to share report with congregation.

Unfinished Business: Strawberry Festival committees working on updating their participation lists. Next meeting 5/5 @ 6:30pm.

Discussion will be held from month to month on Shaking Hands due to flu season. People are doing great job of exercising common sense.

New Business: Ken Koller working on AED information. Discussion on next Fire Drill.

Next Council Meetings: April 13, 2014 at 7:30pm and May 4, 2014 @ 7:30pm.

Adjournment: Motion by Ken Koller, 2nd by Sandra Shade to adjourn at 8:50 pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Jamie Doyle, Secretary

Treasurers Report for

	<u>Prior Balance</u>	February 2014 <u>Receipts</u>	<u>Expenses</u>	<u>EOM</u>
Current	4,311.00	9,482.20	10,450.08	3,343.12
Benevolence	53.86	2,037.03	2,037.00	53.89
Memorial*	40,866.96	1,670.00	-0-	42,536.96
Improvement	5,453.89	458.00	425.00	5,486.89
Bicent CkAcct	22,952.04	765.69	3,236.00	20,481.73
Bicent Svngs	5,300.91	-	-	5,300.91
Flower	87.51	339.00	235.85	190.66

*Plus interest- bank statement not yet received

Strawberry Festival Committees

June 11, 2014

If your name is on a committee on which you can't help or if you would prefer to serve on another committee, Please notify either the chairperson of that committee or contact persons listed below. If we have somehow overlooked your name, please let us know !! If you have any other questions about the committee or other matters, please contact:

Lorraine Henninger - 362-9108 Robert Weaver 362-8625

Helen Henninger 362-9490 Jean Weaver 362- 3555

Important Dates: Monday, June 2nd at 6:30 P.M. Pavilion cleaning night. Bring your favorite supplies

Monday, June 9th at 6:00 A.M. Soup and Bar-B-Que preparation at Henninger's Meat Market

Tuesday, June 10th at 6:30 P.M. Final Grove preparations

DONATION CHART: This will be posted in the foyer of the church, listing the amounts of food needed. We ask that you sign the chart at the items you are willing to donate and indicate how much you are willing to provide. **Items related to soup and bar-b-que will be needed by Sunday, June 1st.**

Pavilion & Grove Preparation: Henry Henninger Chairman All Available Male & Female Helpers

Cashiers: Larry Gessner & Pat Herb Chairpersons Mary Peters Daniel Langhans

Sandra Shade Elaine Henninger Janet Denlinger Dawn Sloan

Strawberry Salesmen Jim Watson Ray Matter Bob Rudisill Sam Tonkin

Publicity - Carol Hassinger & Louise Baumgardner (Newspapers & Radio Station)

Posters: Fay Nichols, Elsie Krout Sandra Lamenza Angie Mattern Pat Herb Doris Schaffer

Janet Denlinger Warren Hassinger

Host Pastor Bruner Lynn Henninger Carl Baumgardner Bob Weaver Scott Peters Vincent Lamenza

Counters: Ray Matter, Warren Hassinger

Parking Harold Herb - Chairperson Jim Bullock Warren Hassinger Steve Boyer

Tom Rabenold Tim Rabenold Mervin Mace Marlin Grosser Dan Maurer Ryan Mace Dean Radel

Lynn Mace Rob D'Alesandro Joe Doyle Eric Steigman Sam Gentile James Weaver Devin Radel

Gary Leitzel Brian Thompson Eric Mattern Justin Adams

Ice Cream & Sundaes Dale Hassinger - Chairperson Bob Crabb Troy Schaeffer J.C.Kell Craig Peters

Bob Hassinger John & Judy Ferree Beau Hassinger Mike Hubler Tim Motter Randy Paul

Pony Rides - Barb & Kim Langhans Entertainment - Harold & Pat Herb Petting Zoo - Bush Family

Flea Market - Bob & Doris Schaffer ; Ben & Molly Crabb;

**Anniversary Table Donald Neagley Myron Riland Anna Fetterhoff Alex Leitzel Carol Hassinger
and Rosena Barry**

Hot Dogs & Bar-B-Que - Ginny Enders - Chairlady Kris Kell Scott Howard Jane Grosser

Connie Erdman-Enders Julie Warfel

**Strawberry, Soup and Truck Stockmen Henry Henninger Michael Henninger Adam Rabenold Jeff Roadcap
Randy Matter Jeff Lehman Steve Schlegel Corey Scheib Dennis Smeltz Mike Leitzel Roy Henry**

Strawberry Festival Committees

June 11, 2014

Shortcakes - Cindy Phillips ; Chairlady Fay Bixler Sue Lebo Ann Bruner Heidi Lehman
Betty Leitzel Donna Rabenold Yalonda Rabenold Bonnie Boyer Vickie Scheaffer Gail Billow

Baked Goods - Barb Bullock & Sheila Barder Chairladies Daniel Radel Hannah Rabenold Sharon D'Alesandro
Danielle Mace Sandy Bixler Ahndrea Schmick Miana Erdman Laci Stadheim Grant Barder
Holly Steigman Lacey Adams Rachel Henry

Corn Soup - Lorraine Henninger - Chairlady Crystal Stianche David Bixler Delmar Enders
Randy Matter Douglas Schreffler Jean Weaver Nathan Houtz Larry Gehring Sandra Lamenza

Coffee - Fred Weaver Soda - Ken Koller Brad Ditty Darrell Denlinger Matt Motter Logan Maurer
Shayne Latsha Tim Bruner Ryne Crabb Jason Bixler Braxton Ditty Alek Peters Clint Gehring Caleb Enders
Ryan Henninger

Strawberry Preparation -Tuesday Evening - June 10th at 6:00 P.M. & Wednesday June 11th; Noon till ?
Chairlady - Fay Nichols Marzette Hoffman Dianne Schell Elsie Krout Richie Ann Martz Cindy Phillips
Pauline Troutman Jane Conrad Randy & Heidi Challenger Judi Cheatham Karen Gehring
Pearl Buffington Joyce Matter

Bus Persons - Lois Lesher & Sharon Peters - Chairladies Kelsey Henninger Owen Mattern
McKenzie Lower Katie Gessner Austin Specht Avery Mace Ashton Schreffler
Gracie Gehring Landon Mace Cub Scout Pack # 86 Lily & Serene Boyer Kinsley Schreffler R J Henry
Gabe Gehring Ethan Dohr Aidan Roadcap Hoyt Schlegel

Servers - Faye Weaver & Helen Henninger - Chairladies

Louise Baumgardner	Holly Billow	Cecilia Boyer	James Barder	Aspen Bloom
Cindy Carr	Reyann Cheatham	Jayne Crabb	Daniel Bruner	Ethan Calnon
Tyler D'Alesandro	Rachel Denlinger	Taylor Denlinger	Jena Crabb	Nick D'Alesandro
Robert Dohr	Arlene Doyle	Jamie Doyle	Natalie DeSoto	Regina Dohr
Olivia Enders	Susan Foster	Amy Gehring	Amanda Dresel	Angie Enders
Katie Hassinger	Kim Hassinger	Megan Henninger	Cheryl Gessner	Park Gessner
Teresa Hughes	Rose Kell	Dana Klouser	Hanna Houtz	Carol Hubler
Camella Leitzel	Roni Mace	Allison Mace	Shawnita Latsha	Jennifer Lehman
Angie Maurer	Blake Maurer	Kaylene Maurer	Angie Mattern	Marlee Mattern
Lori Motter	Nicholas Motter	Shannon Motter	Megan Mench	Yolanda Mendez
Bobby Paul	Jacob Paul	Sandy Paul	Kristen Nichols	Ben Paul
Nicole Radel	Roberta Radel	Alex Ramos	Karen Paulman	Alayna Peters
Bryce Roadcap	Courtney Rudisill	Naomi Rudisill	Joanne Ramos	Tammy Roadcap
Carrie Schlegel	Samatha Schlegel	Tanner Schlegel	Whitni Rudisill	Kerilyn Schaeffer
Cheryl Shadle	Mary Ann Smeltz	Jody Specht	Cory Shade	Sara Shade
Tammi Spicher	Josh Stadheim	Peyton Stutzman	Callie Spicher	Kristen Spicher
Jodi Thompson	Zachary Thompson	Jenna Troutman	Cameron Thompson	Cody Thompson
Katherine Gilligan	Lydia Yeager	Romaine Yeager	Lois Watson	Robin Willier

Festival Night Clean-up - Henry Henninger , Chairman Pastor Bruner Carl Baumgardner Cindy Carr Bob
Crabb Jayne Crabb Clint Gehring Sam Gentile Bob Hassinger Mike Henninger Roy Henry Randy Matter Lori
Motter Tim Motter Craig Peters Adam Rabenhold Tim Rabenhold Tom Rabenhold Eric Mattern



WORSHIP SERVICES FOR MAY 2014

Matthew 11:28 Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest.

Altar Guild for Month of May Pat and Harold Herb
Lector for Month of May Amy Gehring
Ushers for May (L) Cheryl Shadle (E) Pat Herb Lori Motter, Harold Herb

MAY 4, 2014

3rd Sunday of Easter	Sunday School Superintendent-	Fay Nichols
Holy Communion	Sunday School Pianist-	Louise Baumgardner
Rachel's Day	Greeters-	Mike & Carol Hubler
	Acolytes-	Ryan Henninger & Gracie Gehring

May 11, 2014

4 th Sunday of Easter	Sunday School Superintendent-	Ken Koller
Mother's Day	Sunday School Pianist-	Carol Hubler
	Greeters-	Gary & Betty Leitzel
	Acolytes-	Owen Mattern & Tyler D'Alesandro

MAY 18, 2014

5th Sunday of Easter	Sunday School Superintendent-	Larry Gessner
	Sunday School Pianist-	Sandy Paul
	Greeters-	The Eric Mattern Family
	Acolytes-	Kathrine Gessner

MAY 25, 2014

OUTDOOR WORSHIP	Sunday School Superintendent-	Lynn Henninger
	Sunday School Pianist-	Lois Watson
	Greeters-	The D'Alesandro Family

MAY 29, 2014

Ascension of Our Lord	Greeters-	The Eric Steigman Family
Service Held downstairs Sunday School Room		

May 2014



**ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH**

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1 Phillip & James, Apostles National Day of Prayer	2	3 Pastor Tom's Day Off
4 The 3rd Sunday of Easter 9:00 Sunday School & Confirmation Class with Annual Rachel's Day Observance 10:15 Liturgy of Holy Communion (including Children's Church Grades 6 & under) 11:30 Congregational Covered Dish Dinner, followed by Brief Prayerful Planning Group Mtg. 7:30 Congregational Council Mtg.	5 9:00 Blanket Making for LWR 6:30 Strawberry Festival Planning Mtg #2	6 10:00 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg. 7:30 Sr. Choir Rehearsal	7 6:30 Midweek Bible Study	8	9 <i>Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East</i>	10 7:00 A.M. Men's Prayer Group at the Church Pastor Tom's Day Off
11 The 4th Sunday of Easter 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Confirmation Class 10:15 Liturgy of the Word (including song by Children's choir) Mother's Day	12 9:00 Blanket Making for LWR	13 10:00 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg. 6:15 Sunday School Teachers & Officers Mtg. 7:30 Senior Choir Rehearsal	14 Matthias, Apostle 6:30 Midweek Bible Study	15	16	17 Pastor Tom's Day Off Armed Forces Day
18 The 5th Sunday of Easter 9:00 Sunday School 9:00 Confirmation Class 10:15 Liturgy of the Word 6:00 Annual Mother/Child Covered Dish Dinner	19 9:00 Blanket Making for LWR	20 10:00 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg. 1:00 Gathering with our Residents at the Manor at Susq. Village 6:15 Worship & Music Comm. Mtg. 7:30 Sr. Choir Rehearsal <i>Deadline to Submit Items for June "St. John Epistle"</i>	21 6:30 Midweek Bible	22	23	24 Pastor Tom's Day Off
25 The 6th Sunday of Easter 9:00 Sunday School 10:15 <u>OUTDOOR WORSHIP</u>	26 Pastor Tom Taking Monthly Extra Day Off Memorial Day (observed)	27 10:00 Pastor Tom at Conf. Pastors Mtg. 6:15 Property Committee Mtg. 7:30 Sr. Choir Rehearsal	28	29 The Ascension of Our Lord 7:00 Holy Communion, with Blessing of Seed & Soil	30 Memorial Day	31 Visit of Mary to Elizabeth Pastor Tom's Day Off



NEWS FROM THE WOMEN OF THE ELCA AT ST. JOHN'S

This month we will be having our annual Mother/Child Banquet on May 19th at 6:00 PM. All women are invited to attend and be ready for an evening of fun and fellowship. All you have to do is bring your favorite covered dish and have some time for fun. If you have any questions please ask Fay Nichols. The program is planned by the Executive Committee. Hope to see you there.

Dwell on the Gladness

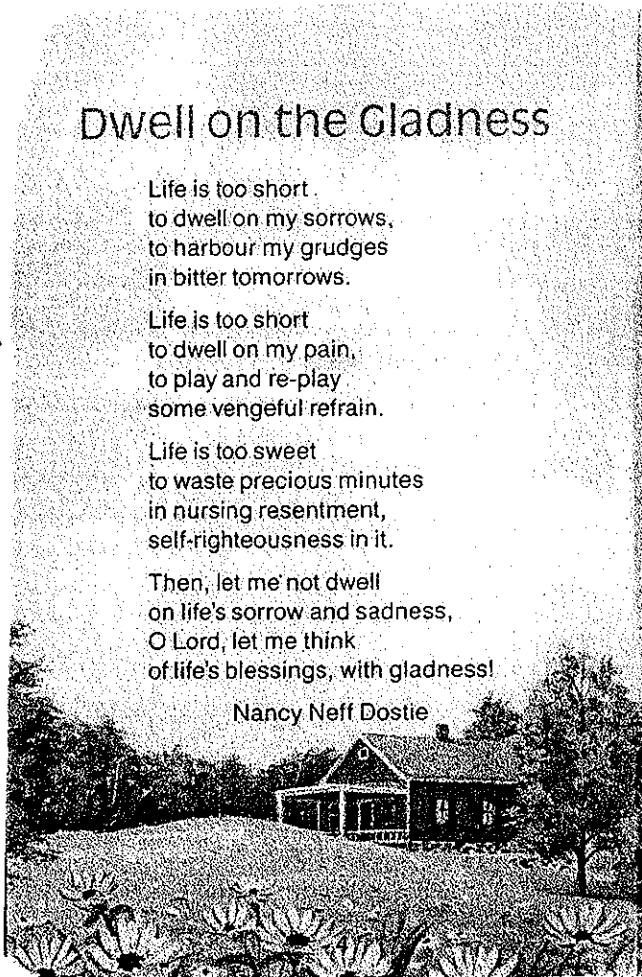
Life is too short
to dwell on my sorrows,
to harbour my grudges
in bitter tomorrows.

Life is too short
to dwell on my pain,
to play and re-play
some vengeful refrain.

Life is too sweet
to waste precious minutes
in nursing resentment,
self-righteousness in it.

Then, let me not dwell
on life's sorrow and sadness,
O Lord, let me think
of life's blessings, with gladness!

Nancy Neff Dostie





St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
P. O. BOX 270
BERRYBURG, PA 17005
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

PARISH STAFF

- The Rev. Thomas Bruner, Jr., Pastor stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com.....362-9519 (O)
362-7895 (H)
- Tammy & Bill Becker, Sextons (no email).....319-0703
- Judith Ferree, Organist jjferree@epix.net.....362-4228
- Sandra Paul, Secretary rbpaul@epix.net362-4117
- James Watson, Council President loisbull17@gmail.com..... 362-3247
- Lorraine Henninger, Prayer Chain Coordinator (no email)..... 362-9108

PARISH WEBSITE: www.stjohnhillchurch.org

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Pastor's Office Hours:

Monday	8:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.
Tuesday	8:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.
Wednesday	8:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon
Thursday	8:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon
Friday	8:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M.

(Other times by appointment)



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.