

Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

911 Emergency/GPS Location: 215 St. John Road, Elizabethtown, 17023

For US Mail Deliveries: PO Box 270, Berrysburg, 17005-0270

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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.	Pastor
Laurie Little	Young Christians Minister
Judy Ferree	Organist
Ty Troutman	Senior Choir Director
Sandra Lamenza	Holy Communion Assistant
Mike and Carol Hubler	Altar Guild Preparation
Youth Bible Group	Greeters
Amy Gehring	Lector
Makayla Crabb and Isaac Schaffner	Acolytes
Courtney Foreman	Lead Usher
Joshua Paul	Council President

For the month of May, the **Celebrate Inserts** are in memory of their grandparents Grace and Marlin Henninger, Margaret and Thomas Berg and Andrew Bella by Tonya and Bryan Henninger, the **Tree 4 Hope** is presented by Chris and Dana Klouser to the Glory of God in Honor of St. John's Confirmands (May 19): Brayden Bender, Tanner Bixler, Caroline DeSoto, Lillian Rabenold, Landon Troutman, and Axten Zimmerman, and our support of one pastor for one month in the **Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania** is sponsored by Craig and Sharon Peters in the memory of William Peters.

This week's **Altar Flowers** are presented by Dennis and Mary Ann Smeltz in celebration of their upcoming 50th wedding anniversary and all their family's blessings.

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us this morning. If you are a visitor, please sign our guest book in the foyer. As we celebrate our Lord's Supper, we welcome to our table all baptized Christians who have received the sacrament in their home congregations. All persons who do not yet commune are invited to come forward to receive a blessing. 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	
*Confession and Forgiveness	Pg. 94-96
*Opening Hymn #389 "Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"	
*Apostolic Greeting	Pg. 203
*Kyrie (sung in unison)	Pg. 203
*Hymn of Praise: "Come, let us join..." (sung in unison)	Pg. 204
*Prayer of the Day	

We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Acts 10:44-48

Psalm: 98

Second Reading: I John 5:1-6

*Gospel Acclamation (sung in unison):

ALLELUIA! LORD AND SAVIOR: OPEN NOW YOUR SAVING WORD. LET IT BURN LIKE FIRE WITHIN US; SPEAK UNTIL OUR HEARTS ARE STIRRED. ALLELUIA! LORD WE SING FOR THE GOOD NEWS THAT YOU BRING. (Pg 205)

*Gospel: John 15:9-17

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

*Nicene Creed

Pg. 104

*Prayers of the Church

Offering of Our Gifts and Choir Anthem

*Offertory Hymn (#182) (sung as gifts are brought forward):

LET THE VINEYARDS BE FRUITFUL LORD, AND FILL TO THE BRIM OUR CUP OF BLESSING. GATHER A HARVEST FROM THE SEEDS THAT WERE SOWN, THAT WE MAY BE FED WITH THE BREAD OF LIFE. GATHER THE HOPES AND DREAMS OF ALL; UNITE THEM WITH THE PRAYERS WE OFFER NOW. GRACE OUR TABLE WITH YOUR PRESENCE AND GIVE US A FORETASTE OF THE FEAST TO COME.

*Offertory Prayer:

P: Let us pray... our Savior and Lord. All: **AMEN.**

We Share in God's Supper

*Great Thanksgiving (spoken):

P: The Lord be with you.

C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

P: Lift up your hearts.

C: **WE LIFT THEM TO THE LORD.**

P: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

C: **IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.**

P: ...we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

*We Respond in Praise (sung in unison):

HOLY, HOLY, HOLY LORD, GOD OF POWER AND MIGHT, HEAV'N AND EARTH ARE FULL OF YOUR GLORY. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD. HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST, HOSANNA IN THE HIGHEST. (Pg. 207)

*Eucharistic Prayer:

P: ...we proclaim the Lord's death until he comes.

All Sing: **CHRIST HAS DIED. CHRIST IS RISEN. CHRIST WILL COME AGAIN. (Pg. 207)**

P: ...be all honor and glory in your Holy Church, now and forever.

All Sing: **AMEN, AMEN, AMEN. (Pg. 207)**

*Our Lord's Prayer – traditional version on right

Pg. 208

We Partake of Our Lord's Supper (As we prepare to share in the sacrament, please join in singing the praise song "O Lamb of God"):

O LAMB OF GOD, YOU BEAR THE SIN OF ALL THE WORLD AWAY; YOU SUFFERED DEATH OUR LIVES TO SAVE: HAVE MERCY NOW, WE PRAY. O LAMB OF GOD, YOU BEAR THE SIN OF ALL THE WORLD AWAY; YOU SET US FREE FROM GUILT AND GRAVE: HAVE MERCY NOW, WE PRAY. O LAMB OF GOD, YOU BEAR THE SIN OF ALL THE WORLD AWAY; ETERNAL PEACE WITH GOD YOU MADE: GIVE US YOUR PEACE, WE PRAY. (Pg. 208)

*Post Communion Blessing:

P: The body and blood of our Lord Jesus Christ strengthen us and keep us in his grace.

All: **AMEN**

God Sends Us to Share the Good News

*Post Communion Hymn (#204) (sung):

THANKFUL HEARTS AND VOICES RAISE; TELL EVERYONE WHAT GOD HAS DONE. LET ALL WHO SEEK THE LORD REJOICE AND BEAR CHRIST'S HOLY NAME. SEND US WITH YOUR PROMISES AND LEAD YOUR PEOPLE FORTH IN JOY WITH SHOUTS OF THANKSGIVING. ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!

*Post Communion Prayer:

P: Let us pray... Christ our Lord.

All: **AMEN**

*Blessing and Dismissal:

P: Almighty God, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, bless us now and forever.

All: **AMEN**

P: Go in peace. Serve the Lord.

All: **WE WILL! THANKS BE TO GOD!**

*Closing Hymn #367 "Now All the Vault of Heaven Resounds"

*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

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* Please stand, if able to do so.

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church Berrysburg, Pa.

Stauffer's Greenhouse
4.5" Red Geranium for Pentecost
Sunday, MAY 19, 2024

Number: _____ @ \$4.40 each = \$ _____ Order Total

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

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: _____

Please return order form with payment to a Flower Fund Committee Member
Dana Klouser, Sheila Barder, Fay Nichols or Gail Billow

Absolute last day to order May 12, 2024

Thank you for your support!!!!

Today, May 5

- 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 Sacrament of Holy Communion and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)
- 11:30am Youth Group Outing Departs Church (Lunch Enroute)

Monday, May 6

- 8-9:30am Pastor Tom's Office Hours
- 9-11am "Blanket Bunch" Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief

Tuesday, May 7

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

Wednesday, May 8

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

Thursday, May 9

Ascension of Our Lord

- 8am-12pm Pastor Tom's Office Hours
- 7pm St. John Hosts Community Ecumenical Worship (We will share this worship with our United Church of Christ neighbors of their "Northern Cluster" and the pastors will all take part in the leadership of worship. Mr. Thomas Dressler will be our organist.. Tom is a professional organist, harpsichordist, speaker, and music director from Albrightsville, PA who first established a link with our congregational family when he came to do research in our archives concerning Pastor J. Michael Enderlein, from whom he is descended and whose possible connections with the great Johann Sebastian Bach as a young man back in Germany Tom is researching. While here, Tom thoroughly enjoyed playing our organ and expressed the hope that he might return some time and play for worship, with this being the result. Our worship order will celebrate Jesus' Triumphant Ascension in scripture and prayer, with a very generous measure of Tom's organ skills spread throughout.)

Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East

Friday, May 10

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

Saturday, May 11

Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

Next Sunday, May 12

Seventh Sunday of Easter

- 9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
- 9am Youth Group Bible Time (In-Person)
- 9am Pastor Tom Meets with May 19 Confirmands (In-Person)
- 9am SONday Celebration (In-Person)
- 10:15am Worship, Including Mother's Day Sunny Sermon and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom)

Looking Ahead

Please join us for our May book group. We'll be discussing **The Secret Chord** by **Geraldine Brooks** on **Monday, May 13, 6:30 pm** either in the pavilion or fellowship hall, depending on weather. Please bring a snack to share! Everyone is welcome! If you need a copy of the book, please talk with staff at the Elizabethtown Library. All local copies are in use, but they will order the book for you from a neighboring library. If you have questions, please contact Ann (rahbruner@gmail.com).

****PLEASE NOTE THE NEW DATE****

The St. John Women of the ELCA will be having an event on Thursday, May 30th at 6pm! Please join us to make care kits for Lifeline Pregnancy Center in Millersburg. We will be assembling adult kits and **also looking to install some new leaders for our group.** Please consider becoming a leader of this great mission! This is an easy way to do a lot of good works for our church and to get involved with minimal time out of your schedule. We would love to see some new women of the congregation take part! If you have any questions about our program please see Rachel Henry, Barb Bullock or Ginny Enders.

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Again this year, yard/road signs advertising our Annual Strawberry Festival are available for the taking in the foyer. These are high quality signs made to be reused for years to come, designed so that the date can be changed each year, and therefore also fairly pricey, so you are requested to please "sign out" the road sign(s) you take and then sign them back in when you return them very soon after June 12. We have added 25 more signs to those we had last year since we ran out fairly quickly and had folks still requesting them. **Very important – if you place a sign anywhere other than on your own property near a roadway, please be sure to ask the property owner's permission. Please DO NOT simply place them – as political signs tend to be placed – in "anonymous" places along the highway, because this tends to result in their being treated accordingly and becoming damaged or lost.** Again, please be sure to sign out any sign(s) you take and to sign them back in promptly after June 12. Thank you!

Publicity posters for the Strawberry Festival are available for picking up on the table outside Pastor Tom's office.

The Third and Final Planning Meeting for our June 12 Annual Strawberry Festival will be held at the church on **Monday, May 20, beginning at 6:15 P.M.** Committee chairpersons are especially needed to attend but all interested persons are welcome to attend.

With transition in the Audit Committee, the audit meeting for the first quarter will be delayed and combined with the second quarter audit, following the end of June.

For the month of June, a sponsor is needed for our providing of one month of a **Konde Diocese (in Tanzania, Africa) Pastors Salary** (\$50/month). To sponsor this ministry in honor or in memory of loved ones or events, please either sign up in person in the foyer or, if easier, please feel free to call or email Pastor Tom, who will take care of it for you. **It's**

Jam Making Time

Hey folks we will be starting to make the jams and jellies for the Strawberry Festival very soon. Most of the time we get the jars back, but this didn't happen this year. For those who can help it would be greatly appreciated. We are asking for the items needed below. This has always been a very good project and sell out each year! For more information contact Fay Nichols at 717-329-7447. **Items Needed:** Jars (8 oz. jelly jars), Sugar, Sure Jell, Fruits, Lids for jars left from last year, and Monetary donations.

Please place your non-perishable food donations for the food pantry at the Upper Dauphin Human Services Center in Lykens on any shelf inside the north (right side, coming in the front doors) closet in the foyer, where the door is labelled accordingly. As the contributions add up, deliveries will be made to the pantry by **Larry Gessner**. Thank you!

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.)**

The Youth Group continues to collect aluminum – aluminum only, please – in the lower level of the barn, facing toward Elizabethtown. **Please be sure to place your aluminum inside the sliding door and not outside in the pull-in space, where the animals tend to create a mess with donations.** Thank you for your help with this major fundraiser for our youth and help for our environment!

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
- **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, Receiving Outpatient Chemotherapy Treatments

Our Faith Active in Worship – April 28, 2024

Current – Approx. Budget Goal	\$3,112
Current – Offerings Received	\$2,623
Benevolence – Offerings Received	\$10
Improvement – Offerings Received	\$15
Children & Youth Ministry – Offerings Received	\$240
Total Attendance:	Zoom – 21, In Person – 69

"St John's Restoration 250" Financial Update – As of April 30, 2024

Final Total Project Cost (under \$220,000 Budgeted)	\$ 216,795
Memorials Interest Money Expended for Project	\$ 78,780
	(under \$88,000 Budgeted)
Total Financial Gifts Received	\$137,765
Total Financial Gifts Pledged, Not Yet Received	\$ 250