



St. Johns Epistle

**St. John
Lutheran Church**

**November
2019**



Dear Friends in Jesus,

As we get into that time of year when a sweater or a blanket can be a really nice and comfortable/comforting thing, it seems a good time to mention our prayer shawl ministry. As you hopefully recall, prayer shawls were introduced to our congregational family a few years ago now, under the auspices of our St. John Women of the ELCA. The concept is that, as someone of any age or gender who is going through a difficult time in their life and faith journey (for whatever reason at all) is given a blessed prayer shawl, the soft warmth of the fabric surrounding them is a great embodiment and reminder of the love and grace of God which is also surrounding them. I have seen folks drape them around their shoulders as a shawl is often worn, use them as a blanket for their lap, place them over a particular body part that is giving them problems – the possibilities are as numerous as are the recipients.

We are very fortunate to have a number of people who, under the guidance of Barb Bullock, knit or crochet these beautiful pieces and bring them to the church. Then, every so often, we display a new “batch” in worship and join together to ask God’s blessing on those shawls and, through them, on those persons who will receive them. The intention of the ministry is that each person receive just one shawl “for life”, to be used in whatever time(s) of brokenness they are facing or will ever face. (But with that said, every now and then prayer shawls can be lost – as when someone is discharged from the hospital and the folks gathering their things miss including the shawl – and there is absolutely nothing wrong with contacting me for a replacement.)

Now that enough time has passed so that a great many members of our congregational family have already received blessed prayer shawls, we want to make sure that even more folks who are known to be hurting in body, mind, or spirit have the same opportunity. To this end, anyone from our congregational family can arrange to pick up and deliver a blessed shawl to a person known to them in any way who is struggling in any way.

Please don't hesitate to see me to learn more about prayer shawls in general, to learn more about our prayer shawl ministry, or to pick up a blessed shawl!

PASTOR TOM



The first Breaking Bread Dinner will be held November 10! Please join them for food, fellowship, and helping the women of St. Johns contribute to and participate in all the great things they are doing for the St. Johns community as well as the Upper Dauphin Area!

The women will be holding their Annual Thank Offering Service on Sunday November 24, with special guest speaker Deaconess Marsha Roscoe.

News from Miss Laurie
Young Christians Minister

CHILDREN'S MINISTRY

Happy November, everyone! It's been a beautiful autumn so far – I hope the awesome weather continues!!

And speaking of good weather, we'll be hoping for it on **November 3rd** as we begin the month with one of our favorite activities – the annual hayride! This year in addition to the hayride, we're having a "Pumpkin Bash" and doing some pumpkin related activities including decorating pumpkins! We'll also discuss how being a Christian is like being a pumpkin! Mark your calendars and plan to join us for the fun! (By the way, Daylight Saving Time ends on Sunday, November 3rd, so remember to set your clocks back an hour on Saturday night so you don't miss it!!!)



The November meeting of Celebration Club is Wednesday, **November 6th**! Join us at 6:30 as we hear the story of Jesus walking on water! There will be music, games, a craft and a snack that will reinforce the story! And as always, there will be treats galore!! Come and be part of the Celebration Club adventure!!

On Sunday, **November 24th**, we'll again be making ornaments to decorate the Christmas tree in our Celebration Space. We had a great turnout last year and it was a lot of fun, so plan to join us after worship for pizza and crafts!! And you'll get last year's ornaments to take home with you so you can decorate your tree at home, too!

Wishing you all a wonderful month! I hope it is a time of family and fellowship with the emphasis on thanking God for ALL He does for us each and every day! Happy Thanksgiving and happy November!

Miss Laurie

All Saints Day Dinner

Immediately following the conclusion of our worship on All Saints Sunday, November 3, we will continue with what has become an annual tradition by gathering downstairs for a chicken and waffles dinner, with all the trimmings, served by Youth Group. Lots of great food will be the order of the day, and a freewill offering will be received. As our eating concludes, we will spend a bit of time talking together about the “state of the parish” as we approach the end of another Church Year and another calendar year, so, on November 3, please bring your appetite, your freewill offering to share for the ministry of our Youth Group, and your ideas and questions about any aspect of our life as a congregational family!

Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Worship

Our annual Berrysburg Area Ecumenical Thanksgiving Eve Worship will be held on Wednesday, November 27, at 7:00 P.M. at Peace United Church of Christ in Berrysburg. Pastor Tom will be speaking that evening and Pastor Jeff Wagner of the Lykens Valley UCC Charge will host and lead our worship. Please don't miss this opportunity to worship and give thanks with your Christian neighbors!

Please Help!

As we near the end of the year, please be sure that, if you are a communing member of St. John, you have turned in at least one communion record card this year. If during the year you have been living and worshipping out of the area, or if you have communed even once at another congregation, please be sure to have that congregation send notice to Pastor Tom. If you are a contributing member of the congregation, please be sure that you have used your offering envelopes at least once this year, so that you are on record as having made a contribution. Please do your part to make sure that our parish records are as accurate as possible!

And, as another heating season gets underway, please do your part to help your congregational family be a good steward of heating oil and heating dollars. First, please be sure to keep doors closed between different heating zones – especially 1. all doors on the second floor going into the nave or up to the balcony and 2. all doors on the first floor going into the Sunday School room. Second, if you turn up a thermostat for any reason, please be sure to turn it back down again when you leave. All areas of the church other than our nave – which is automatically kept at 55 degrees – are normally kept at 60 degrees. Thank you!

St. John's Youth Group

The Youth Group will be hosting the Annual All Saints Day Chicken and Waffle Dinner, immediately after church. All youth Group members attending are asked to bring a dessert. This is a free will offering meal and we look forward to seeing you there!

On November 17 the youth group will be meeting for their monthly gathering at 6:00 PM at the church. We will have a game night! Please bring a drink and/or snack!

The ELCA has announced the theme for the 2021 Gathering in Minneapolis!! All Youth Group members who will be going into 9th Grade and above as off June 2021 will be eligible to attend GATHERING. Please see any youth group advisor if you would like more information.



2021 ELCA Youth Gathering Theme

The ELCA Youth Gathering team announces the theme of the 2021 Gathering, "boundless: God beyond measure," based on Ephesians 3:19 CEV.

"I want you to know all about Christ's love, although it is too wonderful to be measured. Then your lives will be filled with all that God is."

Winter Mobile Mission
Donation List
(Oct - Mar)

Sternos
Cans of Soup
Matches
Sleeping Bag/ Blanket
Mens/Womens
Underwear

FUNDRAISERS ARE IN!!

The youth group is currently holding several fundraisers.

Purchase a Swing Gift Card that can be used anywhere at Swing Golf Course in Lykens!

Dip and Spice Packs - ITS BACK!! Enjoy these packs of spice kits and dip kits. From Sweet to Savory theres something for Everyone!

Please see any youth group member or the bulletin board for information

ALL YOUTH GROUP MEMBERS must complete a General Information and Emergency/Medical Form. This form only needs to be completed 1 time each year and this is the annual renewal time! Please check the bulletin board for copies and return to one of the Youth Group Advisors.

St. John's Facebook: facebook.com/stjohnhillchurch
St. John's Children and Youth Ministry: facebook.com/childrenandyouthministry



November Worship Schedule

November Gifts

Celebrate Inserts -

Robert and Doris Schaffer

Tree 4 Hope

Robert and Doris Schaffer

Konde Diocese -

Robert and Doris Schaffer

Altar Flowers

November 3

Lara Balitichik

November 10

Carl & Louise

Baumgardner

November 17

November 24

Robert & Doris Schaffer

**as of print date,
subject to change*

Lector
Altar Guild

The Denlinger Family
Carol and Dale Hassinger

Usher - Ron Erb (L), Bonnie Erb(E),
Angela Mattern and Eric Mattern (LAY)

November 3, 2019

Holy Communion
Sloto

Greeter

Acolytes

Superintendent

Pianist

Prayer

Scripture

Tim and Lori Motter

Madeline Williard /Caroline De-

Jeff Lehman

Judy Ferree

Matthew Williard

Jean Weaver

November 10, 2019

Greeter

Acolytes

Superintendent

Pianist

Prayer

Scripture

Gary and Betty Leitzel

Aidan Roadcap and Cole Roadcap

Ken Koller

Louise Baumgardner

Fay Nichols

Olivia Williard

November 17,, 2019

Greeter

Acolytes

Superintendent

Pianist

Prayer

Scripture

Eric and Angela Mattern

Lillian and Allyssa Rabenold

Larry Gessner

Sandra Paul

Larry Gessner

Larry Gessner

November 24, 2019

Greeter

Acolytes

Superintendent

Pianist

Prayer

Scripture

Arlene Doyle and Jamie Doyle

Briana Radel

Roy Henry

Carol Hubler

Ann Bruner

Hoyt Schlegel

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
November 2019						
					1 All Saints' Day	2 Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off 9:00 Youth Group Meets to Prepare for Congregational All Saints Sunday Dinner
3 All Saints' Sunday 9:00 SONDay Celebration 9:00 Confirmation Class 9:00 Youth and Adult Sunday School 10:15 Liturgy of Holy Communion, with Celebration Time for Young Persons 11:30 Congregational Chicken & Waffles Din- ner, Served by Youth Group, with Congrega- tional Discussion to Follow Congregational Council Meets Immediately Following Dinner Daylight Saving Time Ends	4 9:00 Blanket Making for Lu- theran World Relief 5:30 Book Discussion Group Gathering 7:30 Church Dartball League Match – St. John at Messiah Lutheran, Fisherville	5 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conference Pastors Meeting 7:30 Senior Choir Rehearsal Election Day	6 6:30 – 8:30 Celebration Club with Miss Laurie 6:30 – 8:00 Midweek Bible Study	7	8	9 <i>Day of Prayer for Peace with Justice, Beginning in the Middle East</i> Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
10 22nd Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 SONDay Celebration 9:00 Confirmation Class 9:00 Youth and Adult Sunday School 10:15 Liturgy of the Word 6:00 St. John Women of the ELCA Meeting Martin Luther's Birthday (1483)	11 9:00 Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief 7:00 Upper Dauphin Confer- ence Cabinet Meeting at Salem Lutheran, Killinger 7:30 Church Dartball League Match – St. John at St. Chris- topher Lutheran, Lykens Veterans' Day	12 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conference Pastors Meeting 7:30 Senior Choir Rehearsal	13 6:30 – 8:00 Midweek Bible Study	14	15 <i>Deadline to Submit Items for December/ January "St. John's Epistle"</i>	16 Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
17 23rd Sunday after Pentecost 9:00 SONDay Celebration 9:00 Confirmation Class 9:00 Youth and Adult Sunday School 10:15 Liturgy of the Word with Sunny Sermon by Miss Laurie and Celebration Time for Young Persons	18 9:00 Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief 7:30 Church Dartball League Match – Valleys E.C. Church at St. John	19 9:30 Pastor Tom at Confer- ence Pastors Meeting 6:15 Worship & Music Committee Meeting 7:00 Women's Choir Rehearsal (preparing for Thankoffering Worship) 7:30 Senior Choir Rehearsal	20 6:30 – 8:00 Midweek Bible Study	21	22	23 Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off
24 Christ the King 9:00 SONDay Celebration 9:00 Confirmation Class 9:00 Youth and Adult Sunday School 10:15 Annual Thankoffering Worship, Led by St. John Women of the ELCA, with Celebration Time for Young Persons	25 7:30 Church Dartball League Match – St. John at Faith United Methodist, Fisher- ville	26 9:30 Pastor Tom at Conference Pastors Meeting 7:30 Senior Choir Rehearsal	27 7:00 Berrysburg Area Thanksgiving Wor- ship at Peace United Church of Christ, Ber- rysburg (Pastor Tom Speaking)	28 Pastor Tom Taking Monthly Extra Day Off Thanksgiving Day	29	30 Andrew, Apostle Pastor Tom's Weekly Day Off

<u>Pastor's Office</u> <u>Hours:</u> Mon, Tues - 8:00 A.M.– 9:30 A.M. Wed, Thurs - 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 Noon Friday 8:00 A.M. – 9:30 A.M. <i>(Other times by appointment)</i>	The Rev. Thomas Bruner, Jr.	Pastor	Stjohnhillchurch@frontier.com	717-362-9519 (O) 717-362-7895 (H)
	Laurie Little	Young Christians Minister	misslaurie.little@gmail.com	717-365-3255 (H) 717-571-5058 (C)
	Tammy Becker	Sexton	No Email	717-319-0703
	Judith Ferree	Organist	jferree@epix.net	717-362-4228
	Carol Hubler	Choir Director	Mchubler@gmail.com	570-758-5052
	Rebecca Conte	Secretary	Rlkconte06@gmail.com	570-262-2664
	Daniel Langhans	Council President	langhans@pa.net	717-365-3794
	Fay Nichols	Prayer Chain Coordinator	Fnichols46@comcast.net	717-329-7447

Physical Address (for deliveries): 215 St. John Road Elizabethville, PA 17023

Mailing Address: P. O. Box 270 Berrysburg, PA 17005

Church Website: www.stjohnhillchurch.org

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
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PLEASE
PLACE
STAMP
HERE