

## Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

911 Emergency/GPS Location:

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For US Mail Deliveries:

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717-362-9519

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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

James Watson	Guest Worship Leader
Laurie Little	Young Christians Minister
Carol Hubler	Organist
James & Lois Watson	Greeters
Derrick Henry and Grayson Foreman	Acolytes
Jamie Doyle	Lector
Joshua Paul	Council President

For the month of October, the ***Celebrate Insert, Tree 4*** Hope and the support of one pastor for one month in the ***Konde Diocese of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in Tanzania*** are in honor of the October wedding anniversaries of Barry & Kim Williard (45 years), Matt & Olivia Williard (20 years) and Rob & Courtney Foreman (10 years).

This week's ***Altar Flowers*** are presented by Heidi and Jeff Lehan to the glory of God and in honor of Heidi's parents' (Kay & Gary Kratzer) wedding anniversary.

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

#### God Gathers Us in Prayer and Praise

Announcements

Organ Prelude and Silent Prayer

\*Confession and Forgiveness:

P: Blessed be the holy Trinity, one God, the creator of wind and rain, field and ocean, the bread of life coming down from above, the power at work within us and this world.

C: **AMEN.**

P: Before God and in the company of our sisters and brothers, let us confess our sin.

*(brief silence follows)*

P: God and Father of all,

C: **WE CONFESS THAT WE HAVE SINNED AGAINST YOU IN THOUGHT, WORD, AND DEED. WE HAVE THOUGHT BETTER OF OURSELVES THAN OTHERS. WE HAVE TOLD LIES, SAID HURTFUL THINGS, ACTED IN WAYS WE WISH WE COULD TAKE BACK, AND LOOKED THE OTHER WAY WHEN ACTION WAS NEEDED. IN YOUR MERCY, O GOD, FORGIVE US, CLEANSE US, AND HEAL US, FOR THE SAKE OF JESUS, OUR SAVIOR. AMEN.**

P: If anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; everything has become new! In Christ, we are a new creation: our sins are taken away and we are made new. Let us be kind to one another, tenderhearted, forgiving one another, as God in Christ has forgiven us.

C: **AMEN.**

\*Opening Hymn #608 "Softly and Tenderly Jesus Is Calling"

\*Greeting:

P: From God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ, grace and peace be with you all.

C: **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

\*Prayer of the Day

#### We Hear God's Word

First Reading: Isaiah 25:1-9

Psalm: 23

Second Reading: Philippians 4:1-9

\*Gospel: Matthew 22:1-14

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

A New Creed:

**WE ARE NOT ALONE,  
WE LIVE IN GOD'S WORLD.**

**WE BELIEVE IN GOD:  
WHO HAS CREATED AND IS CREATING,  
WHO HAS COME IN JESUS,  
THE WORD MADE FLESH,  
TO RECONCILE AND MAKE NEW,  
WHO WORKS IN US AND OTHERS  
BY THE SPIRIT.**

**WE TRUST IN GOD.**

**WE ARE CALLED TO BE THE CHURCH:  
TO CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE,  
TO LIVE WITH RESPECT IN CREATION,  
TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS,  
TO SEEK JUSTICE AND RESIST EVIL,  
TO PROCLAIM JESUS, CRUCIFIED AND RISEN,  
OUR JUDGE AND OUR HOPE.**

**IN LIFE, IN DEATH, IN LIFE BEYOND DEATH,  
GOD IS WITH US.**

**WE ARE NOT ALONE.  
THANKS BE TO GOD.**

- Choir Anthem
- \*Presentation of Tithes and Offerings
- \*Prayers of the Church
- \*Our Lord's Prayer:

**OUR FATHER, WHO ART IN HEAVEN, HALLOWED BE THY NAME, THY KINGDOM COME, THY WILL BE DONE, ON EARTH AS IT IS IN HEAVEN. GIVE US THIS DAY OUR DAILY BREAD; AND FORGIVE US OUR TRESPASSES, AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO TRESPASS AGAINST US; AND LEAD US NOT INTO TEMPTATION, BUT DELIVER US FROM EVIL. FOR THINE IS THE KINGDOM, AND THE POWER, AND THE GLORY, FOREVER AND EVER. AMEN.**

**God Sends Us to Share the Good News**

- \*Blessing:
  - P: The Lord bless us and keep us. The Lord's face shine upon us with grace and mercy. The Lord look upon us with favor and give us peace.

C: **AMEN**

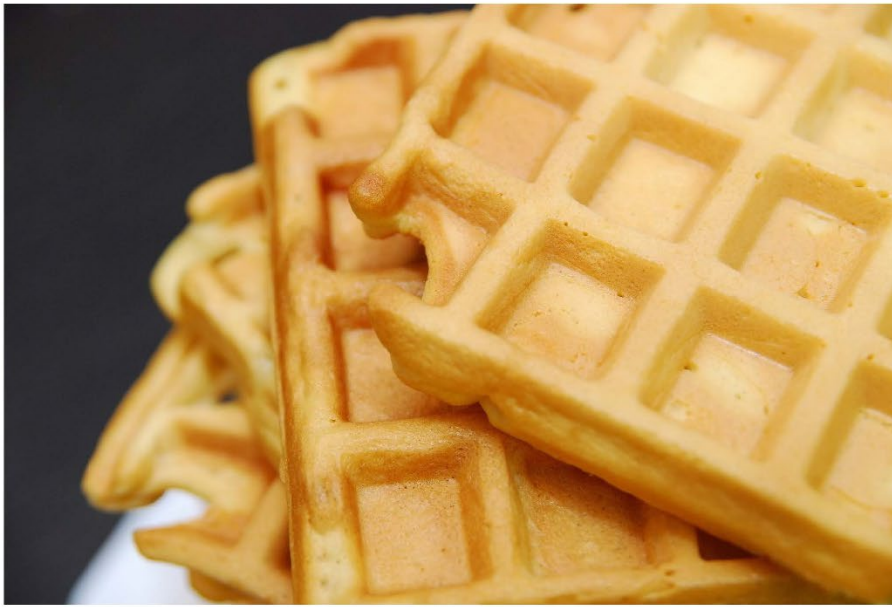
- \*Dismissal:
  - P: Go in peace. Proclaim the good news

C: **WE WILL. THANKS BE TO GOD!**

- \*Closing Hymn #732 "Borning Cry"
- \*Organ Postlude and We Depart to Serve

\* \* \* \* \*

\* Please stand, if able to do so.



# St. John's Youth Group Chicken and Waffles Dinner

Sunday, November 5, 2023

**THE MEAL WILL BE SERVED IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP SERVICE.**

~ Free Will Donation Collected ~

## **Today, Sunday, October 15**

### ***Deadline to Submit Items for Inclusion in November "St. John's Epistle"***

- 9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
- 9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
- 9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
- 10:15am Worship, Including Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom) – Guest Worship Leader James Watson
- 11:15am Youth Group Outing to Corn Maze and Hayride Begins with Lunch Downstairs in the Kitchen

***Please remember that, until Pastor Tom's return to the office on October 26, Pastor Patrick Wirick, who serves the Klingerstown Parish, is on call for any emergency needs for pastoral care, particularly in the event of a death or a critical illness. Should you need to get in touch with Pastor Pat, please call Fay Nichols, our Telephone Prayer Chain Coordinator, at 717-329-7447, who will both place the concern on the prayer chain and contact Pastor Pat. Because the pastors in our conference are now "stretched thin" with Pastor Godfred's recent departure and the inability so far of the Rife/Killinger Parish to locate an interim pastor, if an emergency is other than a death or critical illness, please clarify when you contact Fay whether you would like Pastor Pat to be notified or if you are calling "only" to place your need on the telephone prayer chain. Or, Pastor Pat can be reached directly by calling 717.439.9037.***

## **Monday, October 16**

- 9-11am "Blanket Bunch" Blanket Making for Lutheran World Relief

## **Tuesday, October 17**

- 7:30pm Choir Rehearsal

## **Next Sunday, October 22**

Twenty-first Sunday after Pentecost

- 9am Adult Bible Study (In-Person)
- 9am Youth Group Faith Formation with Matt & Olivia (In-Person)
- 9am SONDay Celebration (In-Person)
- 10:15am Worship, Including Sunny Sermon and Celebration Time with Miss Laurie for In-Person Young Worshipers (In-Person and On Zoom) – Guest Worship Leader Matthew Williard

## **Looking Ahead**

A Free Community Dinner will be held at Salem United Church of Christ, Elizabethville, on Thursday, October 26. This meal in a 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, as well as local businesses and other organizations. Please call the church office by October 20 to sign up.

Watch for Miss Laurie's emails about all the details about her planned **Celebration Halloween Party** coming up on Saturday, October 28!

\* \* \* \* \*

The 3rd quarter audit will be held at the church on Monday evening, October 23rd at 6:30 p.m. Treasurers are reminded to have their books at the church . Thank you. Pat Herb

As another heating season soon gets underway, please 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!

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!

Pastor Tom will soon be putting together a new schedule of Holy Communion Assistants for 2024. If you haven’t served in this ministry before but would like to, please speak with him as soon as possible to find out more!

**WE WANT YOU!!!** St. John’s Dart Ball Team is looking for anyone interested in sharing a few hours of fun Christian fellowship each Monday evening (October 30 – March 4<sup>th</sup> w/playoffs to follow) playing dart ball. **A full-time commitment is NOT necessary!** Absolutely no prior experience is necessary, learn and develop your skills/style as you go - AND THERE’S SNACKS!! Just come on out and give it a try! Persons ten and older are welcome to play. Players younger than twelve (12) must be accompanied by a parent or guardian. A sign-up has been placed in the foyer of the church. For more information, reach out to Larry Gehring or Michael Henninger. Current players be sure to confirm with Larry and Michael that they can count on you for this season.

On behalf of the Blanket Bunch I would like to thank the St. Johns Congregational Family for their generous support of Project Comfort. A total of \$596.00 was donated to help with shipping the blankets where they are needed. Thank you for your continued support of this ministry. Pat Herb

**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
- **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)
- **Dianne Schell** – Recovering at Home from 10/2 Outpatient Foot Surgery at Geisinger, Danville
- **Steven Schlegel** – Scheduled for Surgery at the Penn State Hershey Medical Center on 10/18
- **Jean Weaver** – Rm. #114, Premier at Perry Village, 213 E. Main St., New Bloomfield, 17068

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Berrysburg, Pa.

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**All Saints Day Centerpieces**  
**November 5, 2023**

Arrangements by: Elizabeth’s Flowers

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Centerpieces are being offered  
“In Loving Memory of “  
loved ones who have passed

Note: Centerpieces are purchased by the Flower Fund in memory of members who have passed since last All Saints Day, Nov. 6, 2022.

**Arrangements will be in beautiful fall colors and cost \$25 each.**

Number of Centerpieces: \_\_\_\_\_ Total Cost \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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

In Loving Memory of \_\_\_\_\_

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

A sample centerpiece will be placed on the baptismal font on October 22<sup>th</sup>

Orders, with payment, should be given to any Flower Fund Committee  
Member: Sheila Barder, Gail Billow, Dana Klouser or Fay Nichols

**Absolute last day to order - October 29, 2023**