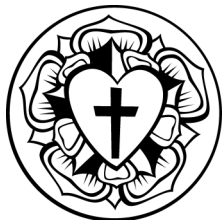


ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
3597 WEST MAIN STREET  
PO BOX 5716  
BELLEVILLE PA 17004

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

# The Parish Messenger



St. John's Lutheran Church, Belleville, Pennsylvania

## JULY/AUGUST 2019



### ***Our Mission Statement***

*We, the members of St. John's congregation,  
promise to share the good news of Jesus Christ  
and to love one another through worship and service  
in our homes, church, community and the world.*

St. John's Lutheran Church  
3597 West Main Street  
P.O. Box 5716  
Belleville, PA 17004

9:30am Worship  
10:45am Sunday School  
September through May

Church Office ~ 935-2032  
St. John's Christian Day Care and Preschool ~ 935-2959  
E-mail us at [stjohnco@embarqmail.com](mailto:stjohnco@embarqmail.com)  
Website ~ [stjohnsbelleville.org](http://stjohnsbelleville.org)



I don't know about you, but for me summer has always meant adventure and time to be in the water. From a wash tub or wading pools in the backyard, to catching crawdads in the viaduct, to public park swimming lessons, country club diving lessons, standing under a waterfall at Lindenlure Missouri, inner tubing on the Arkansas river, and dodging waves of the Atlantic in Maine, I was in the water most the summer. And now we have water parks and stay at home Jacuzzi's capitalizing on the joy of being moved by and immersed in water.

In the Church the Baptismal font is our go-to for the revitalizing, freeing, joyful celebration of the water of Life. The Bible, the font and the Communion table are the three primary sources and signs of our Protestant faith: the Word and the two Sacraments.

Many of us have baptismal gowns handed down from generation to generation, or pictures of them, stored away in our attic. But the reality of our Baptism is not meant to be stored away but lived every day. What does this mean? What's the how-to? There are so many things to be immersed in out there in our society today, games at State College, sales at the Mall, weather and world events; so many things to be immersed in in our busy lives of family, community, and church; so many things to be immersed in in our minds and hearts - losses, regrets, intentions, irritations.

When we find ourselves lost in a whirlpool of worries or diversions cycling 'round our mind can we just stop and remember our Baptism, our immersion in Christ? When we're feeling a little hot headed can we pause to remember that cool and perhaps startling wake-up of the Baptismal water poured upon us? If we can even momentarily go down in the river of Prayer and ask Christ to help us we will begin to feel released.

As you play in the water this summer or even enjoy a relaxing bath or shower - think for a moment of the joy of your Baptism. That one spark of joy can have a magnifying, positive effect on your life and those around you.

Pick up a pebble on your travels or from the font at church and think about all the eons of water and waves that have smoothed that stone. Thank God for working upon us, accepting and holding and transforming the rough spots in our lives. Thank Christ for the saving grace of his death and resurrection and for the Holy Spirit that works with us, works on us making us all smooth, water-worked stones in the hand of God. Remember in your giving the many agencies that bring wells to people without access to water, and the Gospel to those who have not known Christ.

Remember your Baptism. Have fun in the water! Have a blessed summer.  
Pastor Ela

### **Pastor's Office Hours**

Pastor's hours flex to facilitate the needs of the two churches, to address pastoral needs and to participate in church, ecumenical and denominational meetings and trainings. That given, the following new office hours are reserved for St. Johns as regularly as possible. Variations are usually announced in the bulletin and posted on the Pastor's office door.

Tuesdays 10:30 - 1:30

Wednesdays 10:30 - 1:30

(during the school year 2nd and 4th Mondays 11AM -1PM; at West Kish for 1st and 3rd Monday luncheons)

The pastor is often in the office many more hours, so feel free to call to make an appointment.

**717 935-2032** St. John's Lutheran Church

**740 338-7123** Cell phone, text or voice mail. Please be patient with our intermittent Big Valley reception!

**717 935- 2337** West Kish Presbyterian; messages relayed to cell phone



June 9 was a triple celebration at our church: Communion, Pentecost and Baptism! Chelsea (Zook) and Mark Reed along with their grandparents brought forward their son, Merritt, for Baptism.

Cousins, aunts and uncles joined the worship for this special day. People were delighted with Merritt and moved by taking communion together with this newly blessed family. Everyone was invited to take a stone from the font to remember this day and their own baptism.

If you have not been baptized or have a child or grandchild you would like to see baptized, talk to Pastor Ela. This is wonderful opportunity to profess and strengthen our faith and celebrate community support for a unique and beloved child of God.

### St. John's Lutheran Church

Pastor – Reverend Ela J. Robertson  
Phone 740-338-7123  
Organist – Bill Frank  
Sextons – Calvin and Kelly Byler  
Church Secretary – Kelly Byler  
Office Phone 935-2032  
Email us at [stjohnco@embarqmail.com](mailto:stjohnco@embarqmail.com)

### St. John's Christian Daycare and Preschool

Rosie Peachey, Interim Director  
Phone 717-935-2959

### St. John's Congregational Council

	<u>Term Expires</u>
Ed Bilich ~ President	end of 2021
John Boring	end of 2020
Joy Byler ~ Treasurer	end of 2019
Denise Chester ~ Vice President	end of 2021
Sharon Dancy	end of 2019
Carol Fultz ~ Secretary	end of 2020
Michele Harshbarger	end of 2020
Joe Kanagy	end of 2019
Susan Lynch	end of 2019
Lucy Magda	end of 2021
Jami Zook	end of 2021

### St. John's Financial Report June 1-27

Checking account balance 6/1/19 ~ \$ 8,335.31  
Income \$ 82,786.46  
Expense \$ 81,014.51

Fuel Oil Balance 1/1/19	\$ 4,893.20
Income/Donations YTD	8,275.00
Fuel Oil purchased YTD	- 5,269.53
<b>Balance</b>	<b>7,898.67</b>

\*Income does not include deposit for week ending 6/28 and Sunday, June 30.

### Daycare Financial Report June 1-27

Checking account balance 6/1/19  
\$ 1,019.47

Income \$ 119,603.65  
Expense \$ 113,265.56

\*Does not include deposit/expenses for the week ending 6/28.

### Synod News

In the past three months I have enjoyed attending and assisting **in** worship at the Synod Chrism Mass, and the Bishops Retreat, and being a representative at the Annual meetings of the Juniata Conference and the Susquehanna Synod Assembly. Discussions at the conference and Synod assemblies centered around the new synod mission statement: **Unity** as Christ's Disciples, we **Support** one another; and **Serve** God in the world. This has been a rich source of contemplation and sermon topics! One way to explore how we are living unity, support and service is to consider the opposites. How do we experience or contribute to divisiveness in our life, church or community? Where do we see people bring others down or "bite and devour one another" as Paul words it in his letter to the Galatians (5:15) in our lectionary reading for this week? When do we shirk from ways God is working in the world rather than serve?

We want to put a special thank you out to Sue Lynch and the Social Ministry Committee and all others who helped out and attended the Father's Day breakfast June 23. Also appreciation to all who reached out with support to the Fred Notestine family and to Gwen Hornberger and assistants for providing the luncheon after the funeral. Thanks also to the tireless efforts of Joe Kanagy and the Property Committee and all who showed up to spruce up the church before Memorial Day. These are just a few examples of how our church shows unity, support and service.

Let us pray for our conference and synod churches as we strive to extend unity and support for serving God in the world.

Rev. Ela J. Robertson

## IN OUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

A new issue of *The Lutheran Message* (**not the Living Lutheran magazine**) can be found in the narthex and by the elevator. It is provided free of charge to Lutheran churches throughout the U.S. and is not affiliated with any particular synod. Their purpose is to provide inspirational and uplifting articles, most of which are written and submitted by members of other Lutheran churches.

Please feel free to pick up a copy for yourself, or someone else who you feel may enjoy one.

The church also subscribes to five monthly issues of *Living Lutheran*. Copies are available in the narthex and by the elevator, along with the Upper Room (large print and regular), Christ in our Home, and Word in Season devotionals.

It's Liberia Tuition Sponsorship time, and Joe Kanagy will be in the narthex **before and after the worship service** beginning July 7, for anyone who would like to renew or become a new sponsor in the program.

With 85% of the Liberian population living on less than a dollar a day and most in extreme poverty, education is not a priority or even a hope. Your willingness to be a sponsor may be the only way many of these children can receive any kind of education. **YOU** can make a difference in the life of a child.



St. John's and West Kish Men will be singing the last Sunday of any months, which have 5 Sundays. The first will be June 30, then again on September 29 and December 29. They will rehearse that morning at 8:45am in the F.H. Please consider sharing your voice.

St. John's has Meals on Wheels the last week of August and first week in September. The following dessert/food donations are needed. If you can help to provide any, please sign-up in the narthex.

- Tuesday, August 27 ~ 5 (9x12) pans of Peach Cobbler
- Thursday, August 29 ~ Donations to purchase pies
- Tuesday, September 3 ~ 2 (seedless) Watermelon and 3 Cantaloupe
- 5 (9x12) pans of Sticky Buns or Pinch Me Cake
- Thursday, September 5 ~ 6 dozen Whoopie Pies

Please have your food donation at the Community Hall by 9:00am the day it is needed. Thank you!

### A volunteer is needed ~

to deliver our Altar Flowers in August. If you would be willing to help in this way, please contact the church office.

September may seem a long way off, but it will be here sooner than we think. The Christian Ed Committee is looking at Sunday, 8th or 15th to have a luncheon following worship welcoming everyone back to church and Sunday school. Our college graduates, Anne and Kyle Harshbarger will also be honored that day.

On the menu will be White Hall Store hoagies, side dishes and desserts. A definite date will be determined closer time. We hope you will plan to attend!



Anne and Kyle Harshbarger graduated from college this spring. In the last newsletter, Anne shared with us her plans for the future, now it is Kyle's opportunity to. Due to their very busy schedules this summer, we will be honoring them this fall. We pray God's blessing as they begin a new chapter in their lives.

Kyle ~ I would like to thank my St. John's church family for all the love and support you have given me over my years in school and at Grove City College. I have graduated with a Bachelors of Science in Mechanical Engineering with a Minor in Robotics. My time at Grove City was the most challenging, fun, and rewarding of my life so far and I couldn't have done it without my faith and relationship to the church. I have started my career at QorTek Inc., a power electronics and piezo device company, in State College as a mechanical design engineer.

## CONGRATULATIONS



- TO -

Anne and Kyle

Anne is working again this summer as a counselor at Camp Mt. Luther. This is her 4th year! Please keep her and the CML staff along with the children in your prayers.

Being collected for July/August are towels (lightweight) and wash cloths.

A donation box can be found in the coatroom area beside the narthex for anyone who would like to help supply these needed items.



Social hour is scheduled for Sunday, July 7 and again on August 4 beginning at 8:30am.

Stop in for some refreshments and fellowship before our service.



Lisa Griffith, accompanied by Laurie Dulis, will be singing at West Kish on Sunday, August 18th and St. John's is invited to attend. Their service begins at 11:00am. Please note ~ We will still have our 9:30am worship that morning.



Thank you to everyone who donated to the Donovan and Heather Kanagy family. A total of \$1,050.00 was sent to them.

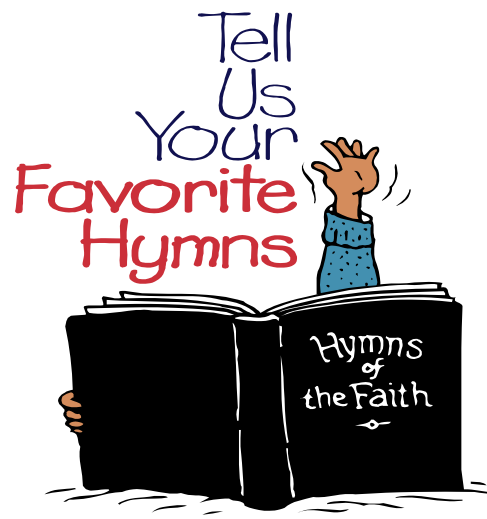
We continue to pray for God's peace, comfort, patience and healing.



Community Vacation Bible School is being held at Watt's Methodist Church on Thursday and Friday, July 25th and 26th from 6:00 – 8:30pm and again on Saturday, July 27 from 9:00am to noon. The closing ceremony will be held during Watts worship service which begins at 9:00am. This years theme is *The Fruit of the Spirit*.

More information will be included in upcoming weekly bulletins.





Title or first line of hymn ~

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A list of hymns will be compiled and included in our worship services during July and August. Please place in the offering plate or drop off at the church office.

# ***JULY SERVICE SCHEDULE***

## **July 7**

**Communion:** Sandra Metz ~ Intinction  
**Elevator:** Randy Harshbarger  
**Greeter:** Ed Bilich  
**Lay Reader:** Deb French  
**Money Counters:** John and Denise Chester  
**Sound System:** Ed Bilich  
**Ushers:** Mike and Michele Harshbarger

## **July 14**

**Elevator:** Paul Byler  
**Greeter:** Gwen Hornberger  
**Lay Reader:** Deb French  
**Money Counters:** Eleanore Rachau and Sandra Metz  
**Sound System:** Joe Kanagy  
**Ushers:** John Chester and Sam Hassinger

## **July 21**

**Communion:** Sandra Metz ~ Intinction  
**Elevator:** Mike Harshbarger  
**Greeter:** Randy Harshbarger  
**Lay Reader:** Ed Bilich  
**Money Counters:** Jay and Joy Byler  
**Sound System:** Jay Byler  
**Ushers:** Don and Jed Smith

## **July 28**

**Elevator:** Randy Harshbarger  
**Greeters:** Jay and Joy Byler  
**Lay Reader:** Ed Bilich  
**Money Counters:** Sharon Dancy and Joe Kanagy  
**Sound System:** Jay Byler  
**Ushers:** Bob and Susan Keller

**Altar Care** ~ Linda Byler

**Altar Flower Delivery** ~ Carol Fultz

**Bulletin Delivery** ~ Rosalie Smith

**Social Hour** ~ Carolyn Conner

**Please remember:**  
If you are unable to be present  
on your scheduled day,  
**it is your responsibility,**  
to find a replacement.



# ***AUGUST SERVICE SCHEDULE***

## **August 4**

**Communion:** Sharon Dancy ~ Intinction  
**Elevator:** Paul Byler  
**Greeters:** Jim and Georgianna Buchanan  
**Lay Reader:** Jami Zook  
**Money Counters:** John and Denise Chester  
**Sound System:** Ed Bilich  
**Ushers:** Ed Bilich and Joe Kanagy

## **August 11**

**Elevator:** Mike Harshbarger  
**Greeters:** Mike and Michele Harshbarger  
**Lay Reader:** Jami Zook  
**Money Counters:** Eleanore Rachau and Sandra Metz  
**Sound System:** Joe Kanagy  
**Ushers:** Jim and Georgianna Buchanan

## **August 18**

**Communion:** Sharon Dancy ~ Intinction  
**Elevator:** Randy Harshbarger  
**Greeters:** Deb French and Mady Conner  
**Lay Reader:** Jim Buchanan  
**Money Counters:** Jay and Joy Byler  
**Sound System:** Jay Byler  
**Ushers:** Paul and Linda Byler

## **August 25**

**Elevator:** Paul Byler  
**Greeters:** John and Brenda Boring  
**Lay Reader:** Jim Buchanan  
**Money Counters:** Sharon Dancy and Joe Kanagy  
**Sound System:** Jay Byler  
**Ushers:** Deb French and Sandra Metz  
**Ushers:** Jay and Joy Byler

**Altar Care** ~ Nancy Wyland

**Altar Flower Delivery** ~ **Volunteer Needed!**





**Bulletin Delivery** ~ Randy Harshbarger

**Social Hour** ~ Sandra Metz

**Please remember:**  
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on your scheduled day,  
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to find a replacement.

# St. John's Lutheran Church

## July 2019

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>9:30am Worship 10:45am Sunday school</p>	1	<p>2 Noon—7:00pm</p> 	<p>3 8am—1pm</p> 	<p>4</p>  <p>Office and DC Closed</p>	5	6
<p>7 Holy Communion 8:30am Social Hour</p>	<p>8 7:00pm Long Range Planning</p>	9	10	<p>11</p> <p>No Council meeting until Sept.</p>	12	13
14	15	16	<p>17 6:30pm VBS meeting at Watts Meth.</p>	18	19	20
<p>21 Holy Communion</p>	<p>22 7:00 Property Committee Meeting</p>	<p>23 6:30pm VBS meeting at Watts Meth.</p>	24	<p>25 6:00-8:30pm Community VBS at Watts Meth.</p>	<p>26 6:00-8:30pm Community VBS at Watts Meth.</p>	<p>27 9:00am-Noon Community VBS at Watts Meth.</p>
<p>28 9:00am VBS Closing Ceremony at Watts Methodist</p>	29	30	31	 <p>Don't forget to tithe, our church doesn't take a vacation!</p>		

# St. John's Lutheran Church

## August 2018

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>9:30am Worship Sunday School resumes in September</p>				1	2	3
						
4 Holy Communion 8:30am Social Hour	5 7:00pm Long Range Planning	6	7	8 No Council meeting until Sept.	9	10
11	12	13	14	15	16	17
18 Holy Communion 11:00am Lisa Griffith singing at West Kish	19 7:00pm Property Committee	20	21	22	23	24
						
25	26	27 St. John's has Meals on Wheels	28	29 St. John's has Meals on Wheels	30	31