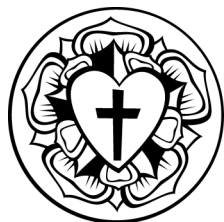


ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
3597 WEST MAIN STREET
PO BOX 5716
BELLEVILLE PA 17004

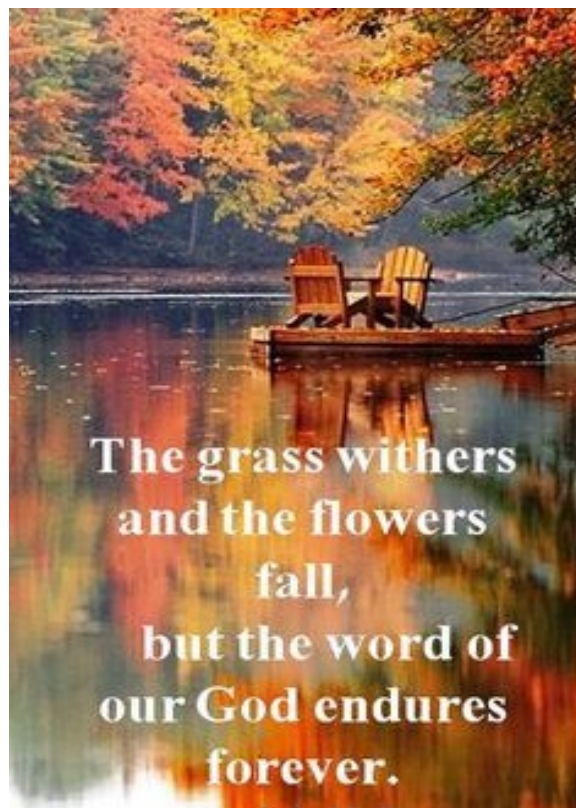
ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Parish Messenger



St. John's Lutheran Church, Belleville, Pennsylvania

SEPTEMBER 2020



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*

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



Message from the Pastor

Praise God with music in the sanctuary!

An introduction to pianist/organist Ms. Seulki ‘Susie’ Yoo



On July 20, members of the organist search committee had the opportunity to interview Ms. Seulki Susie Yoo. We are delighted that although we were not able to offer her the position immediately due to our Covid closure, she has gracefully agreed to play for us August 30 and beyond.

‘Susie,’ the name she is known by here in her American home, lives in State College and is a grad student in Music at Penn State. She heard about St. John’s through the listings Denise posted for us there. Susie grew up in Korea and her parents, who still live there, are representative of the some 8.6 million Protestant Christians in that country. On the day of our interview I drove

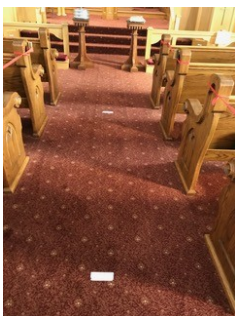
Susie around Belleville and gave her a view of Big Valley. She was awed by the beauty of our church and our valley and is enthusiastic about being with us and playing for the congregation.

Susie has served as a church musician in many capacities and has had the opportunity to attend Lutheran services in the past. Sandy Metz has reached out to help familiarize her with our liturgy. We look forward to enjoying Susie’s expertise, talents, and love for music and the Church as we welcome her to St. John’s on August 30.

Pastor Ela Robertson

Communion in Covid

Liturgy is prayer, enacted prayer, embodied prayer, a way to deepen our acknowledgement that we are in the presence of God. The greatest mystery of faith is that in Christ, God was embodied in human form to know us, teach us, love us and die for us. In communion we celebrate this sacrifice and this nourishment. We thank Carol Fultz, for helping to develop a way to extend communion that assures those hesitant to come to church that we are doing everything possible to ensure their safety while at the same time facilitating this sacrament of union with God. While it seems we are having to live with diminished versions of our tangible liturgical practices, the joy of the Holy Spirit brings us together in communion with God and with each other.



St. John's Lutheran Church

Pastor – Reverend Ela J. Robertson
Phone 740-338-7123
Sextons – Calvin and Kelly Byler
Church Secretary – Kelly Byler
Office Phone 935-2032
Email us at stjohnco@embarqmail.com

St. John's Christian Daycare and Preschool

Phone 717-935-2959
Lisa Lingle ~ Director

St. John's Congregational Council

	<u>Term Expires</u>
Ed Bilich ~ Treasurer	end of 2021
John Boring	end of 2020
Joy Byler ~ Vice President	end of 2022
Denise Chester	end of 2021
Deb French	end of 2022
Carol Fultz ~ President	end of 2020
Michele Harshbarger	end of 2020
Susan Lynch	end of 2021
Jami Zook ~ Secretary	end of 2022

St. John's Financial Report January 1 thru August 27

Checking account balance 8/27/20
\$ 21,927.44

Income \$ 156,869.22 Expense \$ 138,284.99
Net Income \$ 18,584.23

Parking Lot Donations YTD ~ \$ 16,628.72

Daycare Financial Report January 1 thru August 27

Checking account balance 8/27/20 \$ 14,971.73

Income \$ 125,747.96 Expense \$ 117,551.10
Net Income \$ 8,196.86

2019 Payroll Expense Owed to St. John's
September 9, 2019 \$11,738.56
August 27, 2020 \$9,738.56

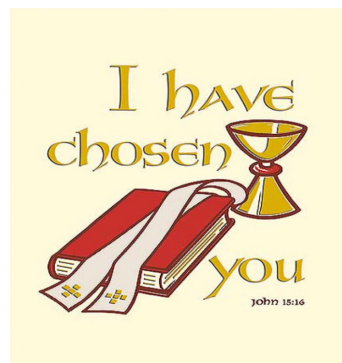
The council did not formally meet during July and August, their next scheduled meeting will be held on Thursday, September 10. At that time they will review the minutes from June, once approved they will be placed in the narthex and included in the October newsletter.

St. John's would like to make sure our service is available to **ALL** members, especially those who are not able to attend Sunday morning worship. **The service is being recorded on CD and will be delivered to anyone who requests a copy.**

If you do not have a CD player, the church will provide one for you.

Please mark your calendars for Sunday, November 8 ~ after more than three decades of walking with God, Reverend Rosalie Smith is celebrating the 30th anniversary of her ordination as a minister in the Church of Christ, and has invited us to join her during the morning worship service. It does not seem that long ago many of us gathered here on that warm November afternoon to celebrate the beginning of her ministry. Since that day, Rosalie has faithfully served Christ and upheld the vows she made before God and the congregation that afternoon.

Bishop Collins is presiding over the service, and Reverend Laura Klick will preach. A reception is being held afterwards. More details will be included in upcoming bulletins/newsletters.



Daycare News

The daycare board is asking for snack donations for the children. Below is a list of suggested items. If you would like to help in this way, please place them in one of the boxes located in the narthex (bottom of staircase Belleville side) and by the restrooms.

Juices ~ apple, grape, or any other fruit or fruit mixture juices, (please no Kool-Aid)

Crackers ~ Cheez-its, Club crackers, Ritz, Animal crackers, Goldfish, etc.

Peanut Butter or Nutella spread

Fruit and Cereal bars

Fruit cups or cans of fruit ~ peaches, pears, and mandarin oranges

Fresh fruit ~ Bananas, apples, oranges, strawberries, melons, grapes, etc.

Please note ~ be sure to check the expiration dates, as **no outdated food** may be used per state regulations.

The board regretfully accepted Rosie Peachey's resignation in July. After much prayer she decided to accept the Pre-K Counts lead teacher position at BMS. The school is providing her with retirement and other benefits which were not available to her during the 20+ years she taught at the Reedsville Lutheran Church preschool or her time here at St. John's. She will greatly be missed by the staff, families and especially the children. Our prayers and support are with her as she begins another chapter in her teaching career.

The Lord once again blessed the daycare with a very suitable replacement in Alicia Hartzler. She has a Bachelor's in Early Childhood Education and has taught preschool elsewhere. Alicia's love for children led her to India, where she taught children with disabilities who were orphaned/abandoned. She also worked at our daycare during summers while in college and between mission trips.

Please pray for the staff and children as they began preschool this past Wednesday, August 26. We are still attempting to operate in unpredictable times. No one knows what the public school year will bring when it resumes on September 8, and how that and other outside factors will affect us in the coming weeks and months.

Property Committee

Completed Items since Last Meeting

Air Conditioners installed in Basement for Daycare.

Signage in Parking installed.

Registers repainted at top of stairs.

Registers covered in Basement

Thank you to everyone who returned the ballot concerning the parking lot and boiler repair. The majority of our members voted to proceed with both projects. L and L Boiler maintenance is scheduled to begin work on Monday, August 31 and expects repairs to take approximately a week to complete. In the last few weeks members have given \$2,200.00 towards this project.

Tate paving has also been notified that their bid of \$32,990.00 was accepted and work on the parking lot can begin when they are ready. As of August 27 a total of \$16,628.72, just over half of what is needed has been donated!

The committee is planning to trim shrubbery on Monday, August 31 at 8:30am. Help is needed!

The next meeting is scheduled for Monday, September 21 at 7:00pm.

IN OUR CHURCH AND COMMUNITY

55th ANNUAL Auction
September 4 & 5, 2020

Belleville Mennonite School is hosting the 55th Annual Auction on Friday, September 4 and Saturday, September 5, 2020 at the school. Friday evening will feature a homemade, traditional turkey dinner served from 4:00-6:00pm in take-out containers with a wide variety of Gift Certificates available to purchase. Saturday will feature breakfast served from 6:30-9:00 AM, the Merchandise Auction at 8:30 AM, the Special Feature Certificates Auction at 11:00, the Ag and Outdoor Auction at 11:30 AM, and the Quilt Auction at 12:30 PM. Come and enjoy this revised traditional event with a vast selection of homemade food, baked goods and unique merchandise items donated by our generous sponsors and community organizations and members. A complete listing of auction items can be found at www.bmsprek12.org.

Blanket Sunday is October 4. Envelopes will be included in the September 27 bulletin and can also be found in the narthex. Donations can be made through Sunday, October 11th.

Lutheran World Relief will need supplies this year more than ever, especially blankets, quilts and health kits. **If you would like to donate a new or gently used, clean blanket or quilt, please place it in the library before Friday, October 2.**

Also needed is a volunteer(s) to take the boxes of comforts into St. John's, Lewistown.

Please contact the office if you can help in this way.



YOU ARE WANTED! YOU ARE NEEDED!

There are several ways to serve Christ at the Big Valley Thrift & Gift Shop. We have an immediate opening for a Merchandise Handler. The primary duty is lifting boxes and bags that are received at the donation door. The position is approximately 20 hrs./week and the applicant must have a pleasing and welcoming personality. There would be a few other duties as well. There are currently more than 130 volunteers. We have been in our new building for one year and with the increased volume of donations and customers, there is a real need for additional cashiers, sorters, and pricers. Processing clothing is a top priority. Shifts are four hours and can be scheduled to accommodate your calendar. You may direct questions to General Manager, Brucette Metz, Manager, Marlene Zook, or Board Member, Betty Hartzler. The shop number is 717-935-5233. We ask that donations of magazines not be more than 2

St. John's has Meals on Wheels again the first week of September. **Still needed for Thursday, September 3 is Applesauce (either fresh or canned/frozen from last year).** Please sign-up in the narthex or contact the church office (2032) or Sue Lynch (935-2013) if you have any to donate.

The Living Lutheran magazine comes monthly, our devotionals; Upper Room, bi-monthly and The Word In Season/Christ In Our Homes, quarterly. There are a few members who we mail /deliver to when we receive them. If you would like to be included on this list, please contact the church office or your Good Shepherd.

Thank you to everyone who participated in the "Liberia Tuition Sponsorship Program". A total of 36 students were sponsored to date. Joe still has **6 available** for anyone who would like to become a new sponsor or support another child. Your gift has helped to change the lives of children by providing them with an education and hope for a better life.

For those of you on Social Media, this ministry also has a Facebook page you can join. Just type in *God's Precious Children Liberia* and it should come up on your web page.



SEPTEMBER SERVICE SCHEDULE

Worship Duties ~ **If you are not comfortable performing the duty you volunteered for, please contact the church office or your Good Shepherd.** Please do not feel you have to, we have others who are ready and willing to help as we continue with COVID-19 precautions in place. **Please note ~ there is no need for ushers at the present time, until some of the worship restrictions are more relaxed.**

September 6

Communion: Jami Zook
Elevator: Mike Harshbarger
Greeter: Ralph Murphy
Lay Reader: John Boring
Money Counters: John and Denise Chester
Sound System: Ed Bilich

September 13

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger
Greeter: Joe Kanagy
Lay Reader: John Boring
Money Counters: Volunteers Needed
Sound System: Joe Kanagy

September 20

Communion: Ed Bilich
Elevator: Randy Harshbarger
Greeters: John and Denise Chester
Lay Reader: Joe Kanagy
Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler
Sound System: Jay Byler

September 27

Elevator: Mike Harshbarger
Greeters: Jami Zook and Mike Boring
Lay Reader: Joe Kanagy
Money Counters: Sharon Dancy and Joe Kanagy
Sound System: Jay Byler

Altar Care ~ Jami Zook and Eleanore Rachau

Altar Flower Delivery ~ Jami Zook

Bulletin Delivery ~ Randy Harshbarger ~ Bulletins will be placed on the old altar in the narthex. Valley View will be separated from the others with Apt/Room number notated on each bulletin, please leave them at the front desk.