

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

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED



St. John's Lutheran Church, Belleville, Pennsylvania

**JUNE 2021**



***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 [secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org)  
Website ~ [stjohnsbelleville.org](http://stjohnsbelleville.org)



## *PASTOR REFLECTIONS*

*Rev. Ela J. Robertson*

Time: Chronos and Kairos; Clocks and the Holy Spirit

Time and space - where we are and what we do - in human terms may seem like concrete realities, aspects of our life we can make choices about and control. Yet we know this is often not true. During the pandemic this assumption was challenged as we were asked to stay in one place, and find different ways to use our time and different places to do our work.

Some religious writers talk about the two Greek words for time. 'Chronos' time is the chronological time we see ticking by on a clock, blipping by on a digital watch, flipping by in the days, weeks and months of a calendar. They contrast it to 'Kairos' time which refers more to seizing the moment or opportunity, and accepting that the right moment is not something we can predict. As we often say 'it will happen in God's time.' Most of our Church festivals have to do 'Kairos' time, events which though often prophesied or predicted could not be marked in advance on a calendar. Evangelists talk about using 'Chronos' time to seize the 'Kairos' moment' the right time to speak to someone about God.

The Bible gives us examples of this and teaches us what this means. Christ's birth, miracles, death, ascension and visits to the disciples are all examples. The story of Philip and the eunuch in Acts 8:26-40 is another. Phillip is called by an angel, and lifted up by the Holy Spirit to take advantage of a Kairos moment to teach and baptize the Ethiopian and then through the Spirit transcends both time and space to get to his next appointment in another region.

As a pastor I often wish the Holy Spirit gave me the ability to time travel or be two places at once.

A call to ministry is vested in the language of the call of the Holy Spirit and service to God and God's time. So the description of use of time in the terms of call, particularly with a dual church ministry, is often disturbingly vague. My response to this was "people will want something more specific" so I borrowed a template from a congregation's site online that might help with this. Both descriptions are included at the end of this message. How a called pastor uses time, in all denominations, is often a point of discussion or dispute as the understandings of Chronos time and Kairos call are negotiated. We can use prioritizing grids but when everything falls in the urgent and important quadrant those things that are equally important but can not all be done at the same time, from the Chronos perspective, may look like procrastination rather than prioritizing and not everyone will agree on what is urgent and important.

Just this morning as I write this, I received a call to do a funeral just four hours from now! Now I do need to be like Phillip being transported to the right place in the right time to serve a family in a difficult time in their relationship to God and still get to the other work lined up for today!

We cannot predict death or when the body of a person we are planning a funeral service for is being flown in from California or released from the coroners office or when the funeral home will determine is the opportune time to meet with a family and to bury their loved one. We can not put everything that will happen down on the calendar in advance and we can not be assured what is down on our calendar won't be changed (as my office hours were some four times in April.)

What we can predict is that God will be with us in all of this and that serving Christ in love will make it possible for both flexibility and service. The key is trust in God, trust in the Holy Spirit, trust in the mutual ministry of the church, pastor and congregations called to work together in mysterious and not always measurable ways.

Working together in the Love of Christ.

Pastor Ela

## TIME and TERMS of CALL

From the Terms of Call to dual ministry December 2018: "As a full-time pastor serving two congregations (West Kishacoquillas Presbyterian and St. John's Lutheran), it is expected that over the course of a year Pastor Robertson's time will be split evenly between the two congregations. It is also recognized that she cannot do all that is necessary in each duty area every week, but across a year's time, she will perform some activities in each area."

Pastor's comments: This paragraph in the proposed Terms of Call is wise and well stated, realizing that responding to parish needs will be more important than tallying hours. This outline based on the approved Terms of Call and from a sample contract from the internet attempts to describe Pastor's use of time and might help provide a more specific way to conceptualize the half-time pastor for each congregation. A unit of time in this model is approximately 4 hours morning, afternoon or evening. This is a helpful model yet the actual hours in any one category in a week might exceed or be less than mentioned though balanced in other weeks.

### WORSHIP

Sunday services -	1 UNIT
8:30 - 12:30.	2hrs + 2hrs
Preparation for services and Office hours	4 -5 UNITS
Hours coordinated with staff	6-10 hrs/week per church

### PASTORAL CARE

Visits and calls, funeral consults, drop-in visits	1-2 UNITS
	2-4 hrs/wk per church

### COMMUNITY OUTREACH and involvement

.5 - 1 UNIT
2-4 hrs/wk

### DENOMINATIONAL Meetings, consults, activities

1 -2 UNITS
1-4 hrs/wk per church

### FLEX - non weekly scheduled activities and on call

2 - 2.5 UNITS

Seasonal services	Three services a year or more each church
Home communion	As determined by Deacons/session
Valley View	Quarterly services
Funeral services	On Call
Wedding services	On Call
Study/preparation	As required
Continuing Ed	

Office Hours: As we transition to a receding pandemic schedule we are trying to establish office hours that will work best with the office administrator's schedules and the congregation.

Currently: Monday 9-12 ST. JOHNS  
Tuesday 9:30- 12:30 WEST KISH  
Weds 10 - 12 ST.JOHNS  
Thurs 10 -12 WEST KISH

Please drop in to visit or call ahead to either office or the Pastor's cell 740 338-7123

### St. John's Lutheran Church

Pastor – Reverend Ela J. Robertson  
Phone 740-338-7123  
Organist – Susie Yoo  
Sextons – Calvin and Kelly Byler  
Church Secretary – Kelly Byler  
Office Phone 935-2032  
Email us at [secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org](mailto:secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org)

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

Lisa Lingle, Director  
Phone 717-935-2959

### St. John's Congregational Council

	<u>Term Expires</u>
Ed Bilich ~ Treasurer	end of 2021
Joy Byler ~ Secretary	end of 2022
Denise Chester ~ Vice President	end of 2021
Deb French	end of 2022
Carol Fultz ~ President	end of 2023
Susan Lynch	end of 2021
Jami Zook	end of 2022

### St. John's Financial Report

Checking account balance 5/27/2021  
\$ 26,177.53

May 1 through 27, 2021

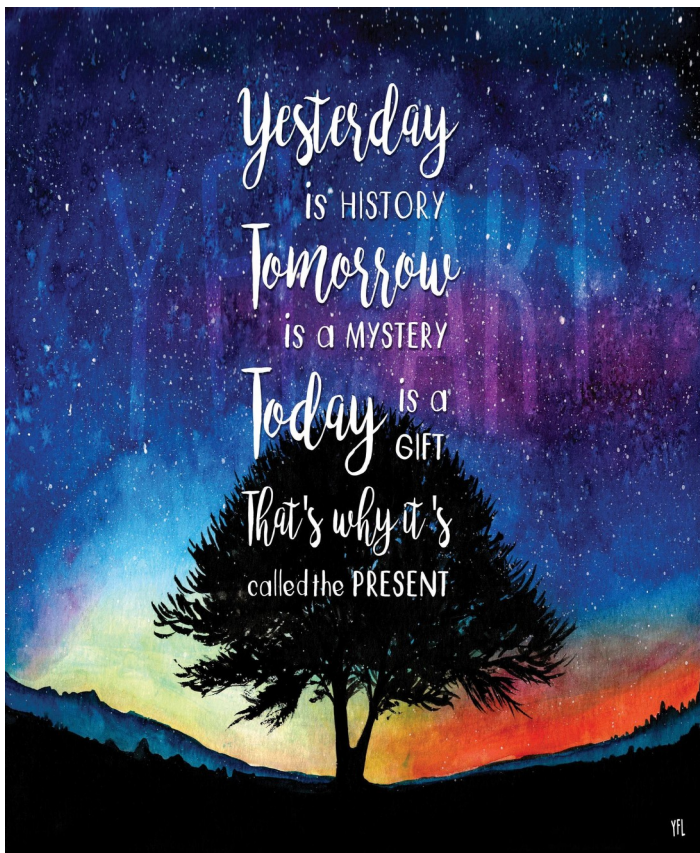
Income \$ 72,685.09 Expense \$ 63,310.94  
Net Income \$ 9,374.15

### Daycare Financial Report

Checking account balance 5/27/2021  
\$ 59,056.00

May 1 through 27, 2021

Income \$ 139,480.30 Expense \$ 110,478.78  
Net Income \$ 29,001.52



Council meets again on Thursday, June 10 at 6:30pm. There are no meetings scheduled for July or August, unless necessary. They will resume again on September 9.

If you have concerns, please contact any council member, those persons currently serving are listed above .

### COUNCIL EASES FACE MASK RESTRICTIONS

Beginning Sunday, June 6, anyone who is fully vaccinated **is not required** to wear a mask, unless you are more comfortable continuing to.

According to the CDC, fully vaccinated is defined as being two weeks after a second dose in a two-dose series, or single-dose of the Johnson & Johnson shot.

## SYNOD ASSEMBLY

This June, Anne Harshbarger, Pastor Ela and other representatives will participate in Synod Assembly by Zoom. There is still room for another representative. A great time to participate with out travel and time off work.

## CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

Anne Harshbarger is our Mt. Luther 'Camperson' this year as well as a young adult representative to Synod Council.

It's not too late to register a child, grandchild or relative or members of a friend's family. St. Johns council has voted to support scholarships for children connected to our community or Day Care so be sure to check it out.

Church camp experiences are often the formative 'clay' for a relationship with God that lasts a life time. It is our privilege and responsibility to support building the community of the Church with a capital 'C', and foster positive Christian identity building in youth and young people.

There are a variety of formats for camp - day campers, grandparents camp day, over night, week-long etc and solid fun filled camp programs built up by staff and counselors over the years.

For more information call Anne. She writes: *Anyone can contact me at home (717-935-2453) or by email [harshbargeranne13@gmail.com](mailto:harshbargeranne13@gmail.com) if they want to talk about camp or camp events. If someone wants to send a kid, grand kid, or themselves to camp, I have camel bucks for them to spend at the camp store! There are two brochures in the narthex and they can be found online at [campmountluther.org](http://campmountluther.org).*

## Property Committee Update

### Completed Items since Last Reported Meeting

- ◇ Unclog Upstairs Toilet Lines – If clogged again recommendation by Plumber was to install 45's to eliminate 90 deg. Bends.
- ◇ Boiler Inspection and repairs completed.
- ◇ Bulletin Boards moved for Daycare.
- ◇ Lock on back door installed.
- ◇ Window completed in Nursery and Pastors Door.
- ◇ Lights replaced in Basement (10 lights)
- ◇ Stones Cleaned from Parking Lot
- ◇ Roof was fixed by Dave Peachey
- ◇ Joe glued baseboard of stall in Girls Restroom.
- ◇ Lights replaced by Joe Hostetler for Richard Yoder in Bathroom and upstairs hall to elevator. 10 lights.

### Open Items

- ◇ Repair of Fellowship Hall walls around steps: Estimate from Keystone Builders is \$5575. They could start in August.
- ◇ Continue to replace 10 lights each quarter- next up for June. (Pastor, Secretary & Nursery is next)
- ◇ Need to look at motion lights in front and back of Church for Repair.
- ◇ Need to follow-up and see what the status of Preventative Maintenance for the Boiler is.
- ◇ Long Term Planning for Painting Masonry on back side of Church.
- ◇ \$5000 approved for 2021 Church Budget for Maintenance.
- ◇ Tested Emergency Generator. Gas had been turned off and a card needs to be made for the tank to prevent it from being turned off.

**Next Meeting 6:30 PM June 21st, 2021**

Another school year is nearly at an end. Our graduation was held on Wednesday, May 26th, with six of the preschool children heading off to kindergarten next year. Some have been with us since they were infants. How quickly the years go by!!

The annual yard sale is being held on Tuesday, July 6 and Wednesday, July 7. We will gladly take anything you have in clean, usable condition, including furniture. Please feel free to place your items on/in front of the stage or outside the Fellowship Hall doors.

**NO CLOTHING OR TELEVISIONS PLEASE!**



***BMS 56th Annual Auction  
May 28 & 29, 2021***

The Annual Auction is being held Friday and Saturday, May 28 and 29. Friday's activities will include a Chicken Bar-b-que dinner, Silent Auction, Live music, a preview of auction items, fellowship and more! Saturday begins with Breakfast served from 6:30-8:30am and will include the Merchandise & Certificate Auction starting at 8:30, Kid's Activities, Baked Goods, Food and a special 75th Anniversary Quilt. We hope you will come!

There are still a few bottles available in the narthex, for anyone who would like to participate in the *Baby Bottle* fundraiser for Crossroads Pregnancy Center. Please take one, fill it with your spare change or other monetary donation and return it to the church by Father's Day, June 20th.



A Belleville Memorial Day Vehicle Parade is being held on Monday, May 31, will form in St. John's parking lot at 9:00am, and begin at 9:30am. Citizens are invited to participate. You can decorate your vehicle or just join in the parade.

The route will begin at the church, onto West Main, turn at the Hill Store down Greenwood Street, circle Shawnee Hills, up Mechanic St., down West Main through town, turn at the Post Office and circle through Poe St., back out to the Post Office, down East Main to Valley View, circle through the village, out to Apple House Road, back onto 655 and through town.

Any questions please call Carolyn Conner or if want to participate, please just come to the church.



**The Belleville VFW is hosting an event at the memorial on Monday, May 31 at 10:00am. The public is invited to attend.**

Thank you to those persons who signed-up to help with Sunday morning duties for the months of May and June. Looking ahead to July and August volunteers are needed to ~

**Greet and Lay Read  
Altar Care, Bulletin/CD Delivery  
and Flower Delivery**

If you can help in any way, please sign-up in the narthex or contact the church office.

**Thank you!!**



# ***JUNE SERVICE SCHEDULE***

## **June 6**

**Elevator:** Joe Kanagy

**Greeters:** John and Brenda Boring

**Lay Reader:** John Boring

**Money Counters:** John and Denise Chester

**Sound System:** Ed Bilich

## **June 13**

**Elevator:** Randy Harshbarger

**Greeter:** Susan Keller

**Lay Reader:** Joe Kanagy

**Money Counters:** Sue Lynch and Carol Fultz

**Sound System:** Joe Kanagy

## **June 20**

**Elevator:** Joe Kanagy

**Greeter:** Carolyn Conner

**Lay Reader:** John Boring

**Money Counters:** Jay and Joy Byler

**Sound System:** Jay Byler

## **June 27**

**Elevator:** Jay and Joy Byler

**Greeter:** Sandra Metz

**Lay Reader:** Ed Bilich

**Money Counters:** Sharon Dancy and Joe Kanagy

**Sound System:** Jay Byler

### **Please remember:**

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

**Altar Care** ~ Georgianna Buchanan




**Altar Flower Delivery** ~ Sue Lynch

**Bulletin Delivery** ~ John and Brenda Boring

# St. John's Lutheran Church

## JUNE

## 2021

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
May 30	May 31 9:30am Memorial Day Vehicle parade at St. John's	1	2	3	4	5
6 Holy Communion	7	8	9	10 6:30pm Council Meeting (No scheduled meetings until September)	11	12
13	14 	15	16	17	18	19 Synod Assembly (digital)
20 Holy Communion 	21 6:30pm Property Committee	22	23 July/Aug Newsletter Deadline	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			



**St. John's Lutheran Church**  
**Minutes of the April 8, 2021 meeting**

**Mission Statement**

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

**Vision Statement**

To be welcoming people who encourage God's love in our community  
through our prayers, devotion, benevolence, and deeds.

The monthly meeting of St. John's Lutheran Church council was held on Thursday, April 8, 2021 at 6:30 p.m. in the blue room.

**Present:** President Carol Fultz, Ed Bilich, Joy Byler, Denise Chester, Sue Lynch, and Pastor Ela Robertson. Absent were Deb French and Jami Zook.

The meeting was called to order by Carol Fultz.

**Devotions:** Carol Fultz led devotions.

**Approval of Minutes:** A motion to accept the minutes of the March 11, 2021 meeting was made by Ed Bilich and seconded by Sue Lynch. Motion carried.

**Financial Reports:** The financial reports were presented. A motion to accept the St. John's financial report was made by Sue Lynch and seconded by Denise Chester. Motion carried. St. John's Christian Day care financial reports were presented. Denise suggested having the P&L instead of it only showing YTD data. A cash-flow concern was raised because the P&L is showing a YTD net loss of \$16,374.78. Carol said there was an email problem related to sending out the billings and the Daycare may still have payments that have not been received yet. Carol will talk to Kelly & Lisa concerning this matter. A motion to accept the St. John's Christian Day Care financial report was made by Joy Byler and seconded by Denise Chester. Motion carried.

**Pastor's Report:**

Holy Week/Easter services went well

Parking lot and CD's for shut ins continue

Mission:

Hearing people tell their stories about how faith has sustained them during the last year has been inspiring.

\$475 was deposited into the Discretionary fund from the Lenten offering. Continue to lean on the ministerium for consensus on requests from the community.

Pastoral care:

Geisinger is now allowing pastors and one designated visitor with patients.

Calls to check on vaccination status, where people's safety zone is now.

Council/Congregation

New members (renewed members) Ron & Geraldine Carson

Visitors – a couple from the cottages have been attending services lately...Pastor Ela is going to talk to them to see if they have interest in membership.

Focus/goals for the council this year? We could do a retreat, but the coaching from ELCA or SYNOD would have to be done by zoom.

Constitution updates/changes – being worked on by council in the next couple meetings.

## Meetings:

Monthly synod meetings continue by zoom. Recent meeting discussed what the status of each congregation is as far as COVID precautions. Some congregations met in person the first time since COVID at Easter.

There will be a zoom and in-person option meeting for the April Juniata Conference assembly.

Planning for 2021 Upper Susquehanna Synod Assembly

- ◇ Michelle and Annie Harshbarger will be participating via zoom. There is still one space left for a voting member.

Self care, vacation, time off

- ◇ The pastor has been taking long walks, exploring PA, overnight retreat at church camps.
- ◇ Time off is depending on relatives availability....Rosalie Smith is available to cover except for the last Sunday in April.

## Committee Reports:

**Cemetery** – Denise - None

**Long Range** – Joy - None

**Property** – Deb - None

**Music & Worship** – Jami – Pastor Ela talked about the recent meeting of Music and Worship.

Holy Week all pulled together. Pastor Ela wishes to continue the bulletins stay the way they are, since we are still having people in the parking lot.

**Social Ministry** – Sue – None

**Safety** – John Chester provided a two-page summary of what he talked to us about church safety.

**Day Care** – Carol –

**Finance** – Ed – None

**Staff Support** – Carol & Sue – Met with Kelly and will be meeting with Susie on Sunday, April 11<sup>th</sup> following worship and with Pastor Ela in the near future.

## Old Business:

Constitution revisions: Ed Bilich has been diligently working on our constitution. He gave everyone 3 copies.

Copy #1 is The model constitution from ELCA;

Copy #2 is the constitution for St. John's;

Copy #3 is St. John's copy with possible revisions/additions/deletions.

Council is asked to go over them and prepare for the next council meeting to discuss it in detail.

## New Business:

Committee sign up sheets will be placed back in the narthex for a couple weeks, as there are a couple committees that need more members. Council reps will remain the same, with the exception of Christian Education, which Denise Chester volunteered to be the council rep.

There was discussion on the videos of the services and when we can expect to get the recent ones on the church website.

A motion was made by Carol Fultz and seconded by Joy Byler to go back to doing communion as we were at the beginning of COVID (squares of bread and cups of wine). Motion carried.

Discussion on mask wearing during church. It was decided to keep it as is until further notice.

Ed questioned about the Stabler Grant for the daycare that he brought up last fall and they never followed up on it. Carol stated she would talk to the Director Lisa Lingle about it. Ed suggested that the Daycare Committee keep a focus on its progress and assist the Daycare if necessary.

A spokesperson from the Gideons International will be speaking at St. John's on July 4<sup>th</sup>.

The next council meeting will need to be held on Monday, May 10<sup>th</sup>, due to Carol being on vacation. It will begin at 6:30 p.m. and all council members are encouraged to be there to go over the constitution.

With there being no further business, a motion to adjourn was made by Ed Bilich and seconded by Sue Lynch. Motion carried. We closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,  
Joy Byler, Secretary