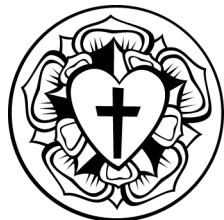


ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
3597 WEST MAIN STREET
PO BOX 5716
BELLEVILLE PA 17004

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Parish Messenger



St. John's Lutheran Church, Belleville, Pennsylvania

APRIL 2024

*Have a blessed
April...
May God's plans
for your life far
exceed the
circumstances
of your day!*



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

9:00am Worship
10:15am 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
Website ~ stjohnsbelleville.org



Pastor's Page

PASTOR'S PAGE FOR THE APRIL NEWSLETTER

Everyone above a certain age, in the United States at least, can remember where they were when they heard that President John F. Kennedy had been assassinated or when the attack upon America on 9/11 happened. When President Kennedy was shot, I was in the 7th grade and heard about it from my home room teacher and upon hearing the news, we were immediately dismissed to our homes. Karen and I were watching the morning news on television on 9/11 when suddenly the world was shown the horrifying smoke billowing from the twin towers in New York City.

Most of us remember clearly the precise moment when something startling or amazing happens to us. I remember well my wedding day and the days in which each one of our three sons was born into the world. I remember being, for once in my life, completely at a loss for words! A whole new world was opening up in front of me and I knew it, although I could not adequately put the words to my thoughts of this realization.

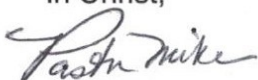
It should not be difficult for us to understand the mixture of terror and astonishment and joy that gripped the women who went to the tomb on Easter morning. St. Mark and St. Luke explain that the women had brought spices, since the burial of Jesus had taken place in too much haste before the start of the Sabbath on Good Friday evening to allow time to wrap Jesus' body in a proper way. St. Matthew simply says that the women had come to look at the tomb. At this point in the story, they simply seem to be mourners; just wanting to be there, near Jesus, to pour out their sorrow with as much peace and quiet as possible. But peace and quiet was the last thing they got! St. Matthew's graveside scene is easily the most dramatic of all the gospels. There is an earthquake, the guards in front of the tomb are stunned into a swoon and the women hear messages about Jesus going on ahead on them into Galilee.

The God who remained apparently silent on Good Friday is now having the last word. God is answering the unspoken questions of Jesus' followers and the spoken question of Jesus himself from the cross. Though they were thunderstruck with amazement and fear, there is every reason to suppose that they remembered that day for the rest of their lives. You can almost hear them saying to anyone who would listen: "I know how amazing this has to sound to you...I almost could not believe it myself, but Jesus is risen from the dead!"

What is central here is that those at the tomb needed to see Jesus, and see the risen Lord they did! However, just seeing him was not the end but rather the beginning. It led to a commissioning of new work, a new life, a ministry that was given to them and a realization that all that Christ had said to them before his death will indeed come true. Because Jesus is risen from the dead, death no longer holds any grip over anyone of us.

You and I cannot meet Jesus in the same way the women and the disciples did on Easter morning and thereafter before his ascension. One day we will see him, when we stand before him face to face; but that day yet awaits us. What those who witnessed the empty tomb and the risen Lord in person on Easter learned is that he is the one chosen by God through whom death itself is defeated and that because he is risen from the tomb, we too who belong to him shall likewise be raised in his very likeness. Easter blessings to you and yours!

In Christ,



Pastor – Reverend Mike Sigler
Office hours ~Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
10:00am till noon
(subject to change to accommodate meetings, etc.)
Phone ~ 717-437-7007
Organist – Susie Yoo
Sextons – Calvin and Kelly Byler
Church Secretary – Kelly Byler
Office Phone 935-2032
Email us at secretary@stjohnsbelleville.org

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

Valerie McTavish, Director
Phone 717-935-2959

St. John's Congregational Council

	<u>Term Expires</u>
Ed Bilich ~ Treasurer	end of 2024
Jim Buchanan	end of 2025
Carol Fultz ~ President	end of 2026
Michele Harshbarger ~ Secretary	end of 2025
Joe Kanagy	end of 2025
Nancy Penepacker ~ Vice Pres	end of 2024

Meetings are held at 6:30pm, the 2nd Thursday of each month, with the exception of July and August, when there are no scheduled meetings.

St. John's Financial Report

Checking account balance 3/28/2024
\$ 5,116.37

January 1 through March 28, 2024

Income \$ 72,135.17 Expense \$ 69,055.13
Net Income \$ 3,080.04

Daycare Financial Report

Checking account balance 3/28/2024
\$ 14,058.66

January 1 through March 28, 2024

Income \$ 85,737.49 Expense \$ 79,081.01
Net Income \$ 6,656.48

Council is once again hosting a *Fellowship Time* before and after our worship on Easter Sunday. Please come a little earlier or stay for a little while after the service, and enjoy a cup of coffee with a hot cross bun and other refreshments.



It has been a few quite a few years since St. John's has enjoyed the collective voices of a choir. With renewed interest from several individuals, we are looking to form one again.

If you are interested in being part of our choir, which we hope to begin in September, please sign-up in the narthex. More details to follow throughout the summer months.



IN OUR CHURCH and COMMUNITY

The following persons have volunteered to provide transportation assistance for members to Sunday or special worship services, Bible study along with appointments groceries, etc.

If you have need, please feel free to give one of them a call.

Jim/Georgianna Buchanan	717-935-5328
Sue Lynch	717-935-2013
Carol Fultz	717-935-0140
Denise Chester	717-935-5614
Joe Kanagy	717-994-3094
Nancy Penepacker	717-935-2966

The annual yard sale will be here in a few months. If you have been doing any cleaning out, we will gladly take whatever you would like to get rid of in good usable condition, with the exception of TV's and clothing.

Several people have already blessed us with their unwanted items! Donations may be placed either in front of, or on the stage. Thank you!!

Volunteers are still needed to host the Social Hour in **October and December**. If you are willing to help in this way, please sign-up in the narthex or contact the church office.

St. John's 2024 Committees

Listed are our current committees along with those persons who have "signed-up" to serve on them. Several meet on a monthly basis, while others meet several times a year, or only when needed. If you would like to serve, or have questions/concerns please contact one the committee members or council representative.

Cemetery

John Chester, Jim Buchanan, Joe Kanagy, Bob Keller **Council Rep** - Nancy Penepacker

Christian Education / Youth

Rosalie Smith **Council Rep** - Michele Harshbarger

Day Care

Michele Harshbarger, Joy Byler, Deb French **Council Rep** - Carol Fultz

Finance / Investment

Joy Byler, Ed Bilich, Jim Buchanan **Council Rep** - Jim Buchanan

Long Range Planning

Council Rep - Ed Bilich **No volunteers signed up to serve**

Missions

Joe Kanagy **Council Rep** - Michele Harshbarger

Property

Jim Buchanan, Mike Harshbarger, Ed Bilich, Don Smith **Council Rep** - Joe Kanagy

Social Ministry

Brenda Boring, Jane Fultz, Joy Byler, Carol Fultz, Sue Lynch, Susan Keller

Council Rep - Michele Harshbarger

Worship and Music

Jami Zook, Reba Harmon, Rosalie Smith, Rosemary Meyer **Council Rep** ~ Carol Fultz

We know how boring summer can get.

CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

is here to help!

Like you, we think summer vacation should be fresh and fun, filled with new friendships and new experiences. Camp Mount Luther offers 400 acres and a host of awesome programs to feed your hunger for adventure.

3 easy steps to your best. summer. ever.

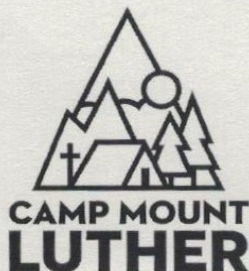
1. Check out our 2024 Summer Camp brochure and pick your program
2. Register (scholarships are available)
3. Pack your bags and come to camp!

Our promise to you:

1. You will be safe
2. You will be welcomed
3. You will be loved
4. You will have fun!



Don't suffer another long, boring summer! Come to camp and create friendships, memories, and faith that will last a lifetime!



CAMP MOUNT LUTHER

www.campmountluther.org

355 Mt. Luther Lane, Mifflinburg, PA 17844

Phone: 570-922-1587 | Fax: 570-922-1118

e-mail: cml@campmountluther.org



The church will once again be paying camp fees for any children who would like to attend this summer.

Program information can be found at www.campmountluther.org.

CML brochures are available in the narthex. Please contact the church office if interested in attending.

APRIL SERVICE SCHEDULE

April 7

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger

Greeters: Don and Rosalie Smith

Lay Reader: Ed Bilich

Money Counters: John and Denise Chester

Sound System: Ed Bilich

April 14

Elevator: Joe Kanagy

Greeter: Deb French

Lay Reader: Deb French

Money Counters: Carol Fultz and Sue Lynch

Sound System: Joe Kanagy

April 21

Elevator: Ed Bilich

Greeters: Chelsea and Merritt Reed

Lay Reader: Chelsea Reed

Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler

Sound System: Jay Byler

April 28

Elevator: Mike Harshbarger

Greeters: Jim and Georgianna Buchanan

Lay Reader: Jim Buchanan

Money Counters: Randy Harshbarger and Joe Kanagy

Sound System: Jay Byler

Altar Care ~ Joy Byler

Altar Flower Delivery ~ Joy Byler

Bulletin Delivery ~ John and Brenda Boring

Social Hour ~ None in April ~ Council hosting fellowship time before/after Easter worship




Please remember:

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

St. John's Lutheran Church

APRIL

2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>9:00am <i>Worship</i></p> <p>10:15am <i>Sunday School</i></p>	<p>1</p> 	<p>2</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>9:30am Comfort Knotting</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>
<p>7</p> <p>Holy Communion</p>	<p>8</p>	<p>9</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study</p>	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>6:30pm Council Meeting</p>	<p>12</p> 	<p>13</p>
<p>14</p>	<p>15</p> <p>6:30pm Property Committee Meeting</p>	<p>16</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>9:30am Comfort Knotting</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p>
<p>21</p> <p>Holy Communion</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study</p>	<p>24</p>	<p>25</p> 	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p>
<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p> <p>11:00am Bible Study</p>	<p><u>Looking Ahead</u> Sunday, May 12 ~ Mother's Day Sunday, May 19 ~ Pentecost Sunday, May 26 ~ Veterans worshipping at St. John 's Monday, May 27 ~ Memorial Day, Office/Daycare closed Parade begins at 9:30am</p>			

St. John's Lutheran Church
Minutes of the February 8, 2024 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 February 8, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the blue room.

Present: Pastor Mike Sigler, President Carol Fultz, Ed Bilich, Jim Buchanan, Michele Harshbarger, Joe Kanagy and Nancy Penepacker. Carol left to attend to family

The meeting was called to order by Nancy Pennepacker

Devotions: Ed Bilich led devotions.

The devotion schedule for 2024 is:

February –Ed Bilich

March –Jim Buchanan

April –Joe Kanagy

May –Nancy Penepacker

June – Michele Harshbarger

July & August – no meetings

September –Jim Buchanan

October –Ed Bilich

November – Joe Kanagy

December – Nancy Penepacker

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the 01/11/24 meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Ed Bilich and seconded by Joe Kanagy. Motion carried.

Financial Reports:

The financial reports were presented by Ed Bilich.

St. John's – A motion to accept the church financial report was made by Jim Buchanan and seconded by Michele Harshbarger . Motion carried.

St. John's Daycare – A motion to accept the daycare financial report was made by Michele Harshbarger and seconded by Joe Kanagy . Motion carried.

On Feb. 2,2024 St John Lutheran Church and St John Daycare financial statement and reports were audited by Beverly Eichhorn. They are adequately maintained and no modifications should be made.

Pastor's report was presented

Committee Reports:

Cemetery - Nancy –John Chester talked to JVNB about moving the Perpetual Fund

Christian Ed/Youth – Michele- Bible Study started with Pastor Sigler Feb.6 11am.

Day Care – Investigation to make the Daycare a separate Identity was discussed

Finance – Jim- To dissolve the Kester Fund with Thirvent due to lack of use.

Based upon the closing value of that day it will be split with St Paul church 70/30. Motion made by Ed Bilich and 2nd by Nancy Penepacker Motioned carried
Motion made by Jim Buchanan to deposit St John's 70% into Perpetual Care Fund 2nd by Pastor Sigler. Motion carried

Long Range - Ed – nothing to report

Music & Worship – Michele –need to change service time in newspaper
Pastor to meet with committee this week

Mutual Ministry – Nancy-Pastor to select 2 more people for the committee

Property – Joe Kanagy –Replace valve that has been sticking on the furnace. parts ordered.
Also fix leak and replace a radiator valve

Safety – Carol Fultz- nothing to report

Social Ministry – Michele - the committee is to provide food and drink for Congregational meeting

Missions – Michele – Motion made to participate in the Camp Mt Luther campaign for Foundations for the Future by Jim Buchanan and 2nd by Pastor Sigler.
Motioned carried
Plan to do Christmas Boxes again

Website – Ed – Nothing to report

Old Business: nothing to report

New Business:

Lenten Offering- ½ to Discretionary fund and ½ to Missions fund
Motion made to accept by Ed Bilich and 2nd Joe Kanagy. Motion carried

Supply Pastor and pulpit assistance for February 25 and March 10 Vaughn Kanagy
Harold Sharp March 3 (postponing communion) Joe Kanagy to assist

Include monthly Daycare report with council minutes in newsletter

Request by Pastor to update church directory

Pastor Longfield covering emergencies while Pastor Sigler is on vacation
To return March 12

With there being no further discussion, the meeting was properly adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be held on March 14 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Harshbarger, Secretary

Daycare February Report

Enrollment:

46/48 (2 School age are drop-in care as needed)

I have enrollment started for PreK Counts for Fall 2024 as well as Summer 2024.

Tuition

Effective January 1st all late payments are being charged a late fee.

Staff:

9 staff

We had one staff member quit due to ongoing health problems, and another decided to babysit in her home, so she could also home-school her son. Fortunately, I have been able to hire another full-time person, who originally worked here several years ago, and have another starting part-time. Both will be starting the middle of February. We still need additional staff, and I am actively searching for and interviewing qualified individuals.

Snacks:

Parents have been providing snacks. Even though parents are donating and doing their part we still need to feed the children snacks 2x/a day. The daycare still needs to help provide one snack/day to help.

Classroom Supplies:

We were blessed with monetary gifts from the Thrift and Gift and Sharp Shopper last November and December. We are purchasing equipment/furnishings to open the classroom beside the infant room, along with needed classroom supplies/toys to comply with STARS. Keystone STARS is a HUGE program we are part of and often where we receive most of our grant monies from.

Fundraising:

Adding fundraisers to see what we are going to do next. Families have been adding to the summer yard sale items on the stage. We ask church members who may have items in good usable condition they no longer want or need to consider donating them to our yard sale.

STARS:

We are getting ready for another review in April.

DHS:

Inspection will be in May. We are always in a state of readiness because she could show up at any time of the year. Some physical/cosmetic things need to be done before May; raking mulch, painting some chipped paint, etc.

PreK Counts:

I have already started our waiting list for the Fall. We are at full capacity for this year. We passed our PreK Counts review!!!!

Grants:

I applied for and received a Health and Wellness grant. Grant money received will need to be used in a very specific manner to ensure that the money is used productively. Any grant money received needs to be used for very specific uses. This is per grant stipulations.