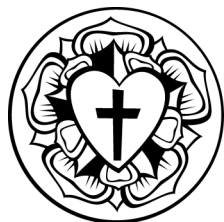


ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
3597 WEST MAIN STREET
PO BOX 5716
BELLEVILLE PA 17004

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Parish Messenger



St. John's Lutheran Church, Belleville, Pennsylvania

MAY 2024



On this Memorial Day we remember those who courageously laid down their lives for our freedom...may the examples of their sacrifice inspire us in the selfless love of Jesus Christ.

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

Every year, the last Monday in the month of May is our designated national day of remembrance of those who in our nation have given the supreme gift which was theirs to give. We will remember our honored dead, the countless men and women who gave their last ounce of devotion so that you and I might live as free people in this nation we call America. I am certain that every one of us can name someone whom we have known and loved who is numbered among those we will memorialize on Memorial Day.

I remember conducting a funeral many years ago and when we arrived at the cemetery, I led the procession of pallbearers carrying the casket to the graveside. We walked to the site of the committal where there was a tent over the grave. I happened to notice on that lovely spring day that near the graveside there was a flat stone, two by three feet, and along the corner of it was some kind of a bronze metallic fixture. So when the committal service was over, I walked over and leaned down over that grave marker and I noticed that there was a hinge on one end of it. As I picked up the lid there was set in permanent form the portrait of a young man who could not have been much older than 21 years of age. He was dressed in a private's uniform and smiling for the portrait, but I knew he was not smiling in that moment of sacrifice when he gave his life in service to our country.

That young man could no longer pursue his dreams, his hopes or his loves. He could not anticipate a long life such as I could. As I stood there, I thought to myself: "You young man, you gave up your life. You didn't want to, but you did it...for us." And then I thought, "Is there anyway...anyway at all that we can make it possible that all your sacrifice doesn't ever have to be made again?"

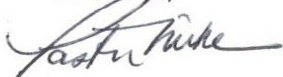
And so, we remember on Memorial Day all those who have served and died in service at any time or in any place under any sort of circumstance and amidst any of the terrible conditions of war and combat; all those who gave everything they had to give. Sacrifice is always for someone else. Sacrifice never counts the cost, it is never selfish in its giving and serving and it is always a deed done for the benefit of others.

We are also called to remember that this kind of sacrifice is precisely the picture which our Lord, Jesus Christ chose for himself. He died willingly for us. He was not forced to do it. He took upon himself our sins, surrendered to the horrible death by crucifixion, so that we might have life unto eternal life in him. He says about himself: "No one takes my life from me. I lay it down myself" (Gospel of John). Always did he live for others, just as he died for all of us.

The prophet Isaiah says of Christ: "Surely he has borne our griefs and carried our sorrows, yet we esteemed him stricken, smitten by God, and afflicted. He was wounded for our transgressions and bruised of our iniquities and upon him was laid the chastisement that makes us whole. For by his stripes we are healed, because we like sheep, have all gone astray (Isaiah 53:4).

Sacrifice is always for someone else. So we gratefully remember those who have given their lives for us, and above all, we give thanks to God for our Lord, Jesus Christ, who by his death gives us life, even unto that life which is everlasting.

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 4/30/2024
 \$ 16,958.11

January 1 through April 30, 2024

Income \$ 97,212.44 Expense \$ 80,906.43
 Net Income \$ 16,306.01

Daycare Financial Report

Checking account balance 4/30/2024
 \$ 13,549.70

January 1 through April 30, 2024

Income \$ 113,103.65 Expense \$ 106,263.25
 Net Income \$ 6,840.40

At the April meeting, council agreed to longer print the financial report for the church and daycare in the weekly bulletin, as the service should be centered around worship, not finances. The attendance and offering from the previous week will remain. A YTD income/expense report will placed beside the bulletins each week for anyone interested, and included in the monthly newsletters.

The Veterans will be attending worship here at St. John’s on Sunday, May 27. Our service will glorify our Risen Lord, who died that we may have eternal life, and honor the men and women who gave their lives for our earthly freedom.

A reception is being held in the blue room, before and after the service. Come and enjoy food and fellowship with our veterans and church family.



The annual Memorial Day parade begins at 9:30am on Monday, May 2. A program will follow at the VFW with Pastor Sigler offering the prayer and benediction.

St. John’s is participating in the parade again this year. If you have any ideas and/or would like to help, please contact the pastor or a council member.

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!!

There will be a Mother/Father Brunch following the worship service on Sunday, June 5. **A sign-up can be found in the narthex for those planning to attend, and to help provide breakfast casseroles.** Social Ministry is providing the paper products, beverages, donuts and fruit tray.

BMS 59th Annual Auction May 24 & 25, 2024

Friday, May 24th

Dinner, 4:00-6:00 PM

Live Music & Auction Merchandise Preview,
5:00-6:00 PM

Youth Auction (bidders must be under age of 18),
6:00PM

Gift Certificate Auction

Saturday, May 26th

Breakfast, 7:30 - 9:00 AM

Merchandise Auction, 9:00 AM

Outdoor Kids' Carnival, 9:00 AM - 12:00 PM

Student Projects, 10:30 AM

Special Feature Certificates, 11:00 AM

Outdoor Features, 11:30 AM

Quilts will be sold at the top of each hour

Variety of food /drinks sold throughout the day

Pastor Sigler and Karen are taking vacation time for a few weeks in June. They will leave following worship on Sunday, June 9 and plan to return Friday, June 28.

Pastor Doug Pierce is preaching and presiding over communion on Sunday, June 16. We are waiting to hear if Harold Sharp is available to preach on the 23rd. More information will be included in the weekly bulletin.

The church will once again be paying camp fees for any children who would like to attend Camp Mt. Luther this summer. **Brochures are available in the narthex, and** information can also be found at www.campmountluther.org. Please contact the church office if interested in attending.



St. John's has Meals on Wheels in May. Please sign-up in the narthex if you can help provide the following ~

Tuesday, May 14 ~ 5 Angel Food cakes
(Make your own, or purchase homemade from Peight's, WHS or elsewhere)

Thursday, May 16 ~ 5 dozen cookies (any kind)

Tuesday, May 21 ~ 4 cans of cherry pie filling

Thursday, May 23~ monetary donations to purchase pies
(see Sue Lynch/church office)

Please make sure you're to have your dessert at the Community hall by 9:00am the day it is needed.

St. Johns Property Committee Task List

Revised 4/29/24 with changes from the 4/15/24 meeting

Members present at the April 15, 2024 Property Committee meeting: Ed Bilich, John Boring, Jim Buchanan, Mike Harshbarger, Joe Kanagy, Don Smith and Pastor Mike Sigler. Jed Smith was absent.

John Boring invited David Fisher to come to the meeting and talk to us about security cameras. He did a "Walk About" of our facility both inside and outside and said he would send two proposals for our review.

Items to be addressed in 2024 and beyond

- Monthly meeting test activity
 - Test the emergency backup generator – 3/18
 - Flush the water overflow valve on the boiler – 3/18
 - Clean filters on the mini-splits – 1/22
 - Adjust the steeple lights timer – 3/18
- We should have a diagram of our building with the rooms identified. It would be good to have a sign on or at each door with the room or area name on it.
 - We could also include the following on the diagram
 - Windows and doors
 - Elevator
 - Breaker boxes, electrical outlets, light switches
 - Emergency lighting and exits
 - Ethernet cabinet, wall jacks and Access Points
 - Furnace, radiators and thermostats
 - Other items not thought about above
 - 3/18/24 – Tabled for a future meeting
- 10/16/23 – Schedule painting the trim around the outside doors as a workday in the spring.
 - 3/18/24 – John said Sanford is in Florida and he will contact him when he returns from vacation to get a start date on this project.
- 10/16/23 – We need to decide what needs done to repair or replace the doors under the stage.
 - 1/22/24 – Committee reviewed the job. Some of the hinges showed stress marks. The plan is to restore the shape of the hinges on some future work day. No day determined.
- 1/22/24 – The controls for the mini-splits need to be mounted to the wall near each unit. Mike said he would mount them.
- 1/22/24 – The elevator inspector said code requires us to have a phone in the elevator. Ed said he couldn't remember exactly what our options are and he would provide that information at our next

St. Johns Property Committee Task List

Revised 4/29/24 with changes from the 4/15/24 meeting

meeting

- 1/22/24 – The inside corner of the wall in the fellowship hall beside the kitchen doors is discolored and there is also a hole in the wall that has been filled in with a paper towel. We need fix the hole and repaint that area.
- 1/22/24 – During our monthly check of the emergency backup system, Mike noticed the emergency light outside the choir room door is not coming on brightly. If all the other lights are turned off you can see that it is lighting but not very much. This is the same light that we put a new bulb in a while back.
- 1/23/24 – We should develop a camera security system for the church.
- 1/23/24 – Our phones need to be converted to IP phones (Probably using Ooma). Doing so will allow us to drop CenturyLink for both the church and daycare and will save approx.. \$2500 per year.

The next Property Committee Meeting is scheduled for Monday, May 20th @ 6:30 pm

St. Johns Property Committee Task List

Revised 4/29/24 with changes from the 4/15/24 meeting

Completed Items

- Radiator at the end of the fellowship hall was removed and the water pipe still needs removed.
 - 2/19/24 – John Boring had Joe Hostetler cut the pipe out when he was here to work on the lights that went bad when the fuse blew out in the electric panel outside of Kelly’s office. – **Done**
- 1/22/24 – The committee reviewed the maintenance contract submitted by Sponaugle. A motion was made by Ed Bilich to approve signing the contract 2nd by Mike Harshbarger. Motion approved.
- 10/11/23 – Fan is not working intermittently in the men’s bathroom.
 - 3/18/24 – Replaced with a new fixture – **Done**
- 12/14/23 – Council has asked us to replace the bad wheels on the table carts.
 - 3/18/24 – John Boring reported that he and Randy completed this project - **Done**
- 12/18/23 – Boiler valve controlling the basement loop was sticking on 12/14/23. Joe tapped it with a hammer and it freed up. We need to keep an eye on it to see if it happens again.
 - 2/19/24 – Valve has been replaced. **Done**
- 1/22/24 – The light in the round light fixture at the top of the steps near the hallway going to the organ is not lit. It may need new bulbs.
 - 3/18/24 – Replaced the bulb tonight – **Done**
- 1/23/24 – Only one of the four roof spot lights at the steeple is working. We have Brian Glick contracted to do the work. We told him we would be providing the lift as Joe thought we could use J.M. Young’s lift but it hasn’t been available. We need to decide on a course of action – continue to wait, pay for a lift rental, or contract someone else who has a lift.
 - 3/18/24 – Joe coordinated a lift and Brian Glick to get the light bulbs replaced. **Done**

The following is a list of St. John's living Veterans, who have served in time of war and in time of peace. Jesus paid the cost for our spiritual freedom, and we are able to freely worship Him because of those who paid the cost for our earthly freedom. Without these men and women and those who have gone before them, especially those who sacrificed their lives, we would not have the *privilege* of freedom and the security we enjoy. So on this Memorial Day 2024, we honor and thank them for their service to our God, and our country.

If you know of a living member not included on this list, please contact the church office.

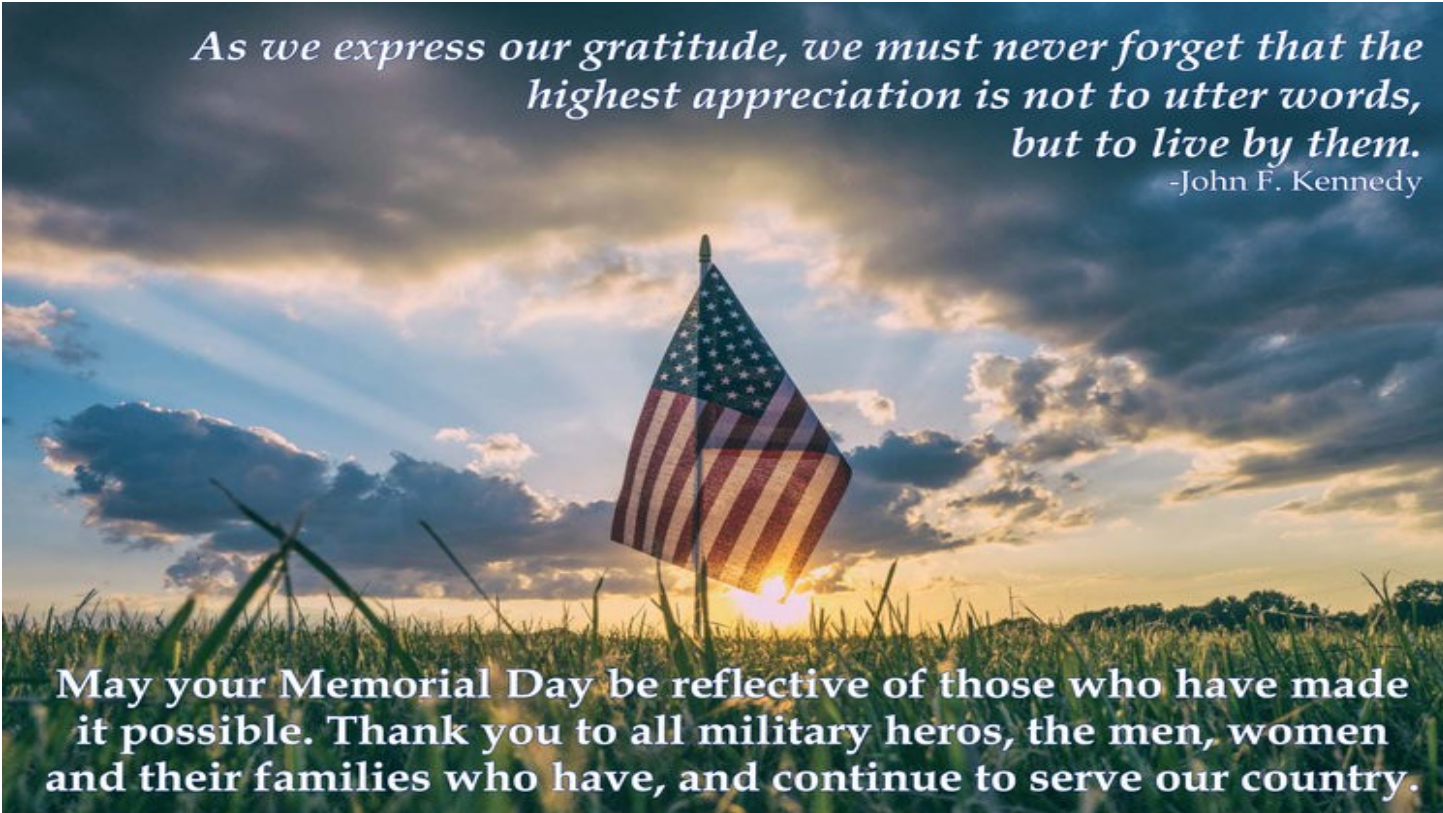
Dudley T. Baker
Mark D. Baker
Robert F. Bratton
James D. Buchanan
Albert Carson
Glenn W. Carson
Jeremiah Carson
Ronald W. Carson
William R. Carson
Matthew F. Chester
Michael P. Conner
Tristan K. Conner
Mark A. Crownover
William L. Dancy

Christopher A. Durst
John K. Durst, III
Gary R. Fultz
Robert W. Gardner
Terry L. Harmon
H. Ross Harshbarger
Randall C. Harshbarger
Sheldon S. Kauffman
Robert D. Keller, Jr.
Andrew K. Kramm
Johnn Marie Kruse
Ralph W. Murphy
Daniel L. Narehood
Frank R. Oburn

Dirk Remensnyder
Robert W. Romig, Jr.
Christopher N. Plank
Paul C. Sitch, Jr
Donald L. Smith, Sr.
Daniel G. Stroup
Jackson Stroup
Jason T. Stroup
Brian A. Stuter
Suzette Stuter
James R. Warner
Brandon J. Weaver
Mark S. Winegardner
John S. Winegardner

As we express our gratitude, we must never forget that the highest appreciation is not to utter words, but to live by them.

-John F. Kennedy



May your Memorial Day be reflective of those who have made it possible. Thank you to all military heros, the men, women and their families who have, and continue to serve our country.

MAY through JUNE 9

SERVICE SCHEDULE

May 5

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger
Greeters: Ken and Nancy Wyland
Lay Reader: Ken Wyland
Money Counters: John and Denise Chester
Sound System: Ed Bilich

May 12

Elevator: Joe Kanagy
Greeters: Jami Zook and Mike Boring
Lay Reader: Jami Zook
Money Counters: Carol Fultz and Sue Lynch
Sound System: Joe Kanagy

May 19

Elevator: Ed Bilich
Greeters: Jay and Joy Byler
Lay Reader: Joe Kanagy
Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler
Sound System: Jay Byler

May 26

Elevator: Mike Harshbarger
Greeters: John and Denise Chester
Lay Reader: John Chester
Money Cntrs: Randy Harshbarger /Joe Kanagy

June 2

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger
Greeters: Nancy Penepacker and gabe
Lay Reader: Erica Hargenrader
Money Counters: John and Denise Chester
Sound System: Ed Bilich

June 9

Elevator: Joe Kanagy
Greeter: Jane Fultz
Lay Reader: Ed Bilich
Money Counters: Carol Fultz and Sue Lynch
Sound System: Joe Kanagy

May

Altar Care ~ Brenda Boring

Altar Flower Delivery ~ Brenda Boring

Bulletin Delivery ~ Randy Harshbarger

Social Hour ~ John and Brenda Boring

June

Altar Care ~ Susan Keller

Altar Flower Delivery ~ Susan Keller

Bulletin Delivery ~ Jim and Georgianna Buchanan



Social Hour ~ No Social hour until September

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

May

2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
9:00am Worship 10:15am Sunday School	<u>Looking Ahead</u> Tuesday, June 4 Last Bible study ~ will resume again in Sept. Sunday, June 5 Mother/Father Brunch		1	2 9:30am Comfort Knotting	3	4
5 Holy Communion	6	7 11:00am Bible Study	8	9 6:30pm Council Meeting 	10	11
12  Congregational mtg following worship	13	14 11:00am Bible Study St. John's has Meals on Wheels	15	16 9:30am Comfort Knotting St. John's has Meals on Wheels	17	18
19 Pentecost Holy Communion 	20 6:30pm Property Committee Meeting	21 11:00am Bible Study St. John's has Meals on Wheels	22	23 St. John's has Meals on Wheels	24	25
26 Holy Trinity Veterans worshipping at St. John's	27 Memorial Day Parade begins at 9:30am DC/Office Closed	28 11:00am Bible Study	29	30 6:00pm Daycare Preschool Graduation 	31	

St. John's Lutheran Church
Minutes of the March 14, 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 March 14, 2024 at 6:30 pm in the blue room.

Present: Pastor Mike Sigler, President Carol Fultz, Ed Bilich, Michele Harshbarger, Joe Kanagy and Nancy Penepacker.

The meeting was called to order by Nancy Penepacker

Devotions: Joe Kanagy 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 02/08/24meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Joe Kanagy and seconded by Nancy Penepacker. Motion carried.

Pastor report submitted by Pastor Sigler

Financial Reports:

The financial reports were presented by Ed Bilich.

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

St. John's Daycare – A motion to accept the daycare financial report was made by Nancy Penepacker 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- nothing to report

Christian Ed/Youth-Michele- nothing to report

Day Care –Carol- Director provided a printed March report

Finance –Jim- meeting to be set up with JVB concerning cemetery funds

Long Range -Ed- Pastor wants to set up goals. To set up meeting with council after Easter

Music & Worship – Carol-Pastor Ok'd Holy Week schedule

Mutual Ministry – Nancy-To meet with the Pastor every 3-4. Pastor to pick 2 more members

Property – Joe Kanagy –Steeple light bulbs changed

Need to fix screen in front of radiator in Toddler room

Radiator valves need fixed in Valerie's office and Fellowship Hall

Safety – Carol Fultz- nothing to report

Social Ministry – Michele - Nothing to report

Missions – Michele – Ed suggested Ham Sandwich sell to raise money for missions

Website – Ed – Nothing to report

Old Business: council hosting 3/31 Easter fellowship time before and after worship

No April Social hour

New Business:

Mother/Father Brunch June 2-post list for casseroles/donuts

No social hour June/July/August

Synod Assembly reps-Joe said he would go. Pastor to ask for one more person

June 14-15

Susie time off to return home to visit parents that are ill

A motion was made by Ed to approve Susie's time off and Nancy 2nd. Motion carried

Committee reps and committee responsibilities

With there being no further discussion, the meeting was properly adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be held on April 11 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Michele Harshbarger, Secretary

Daycare April Report

Enrollment:

48

We are at maximum enrollment based on the number of staff we have. Currently have a waiting list of families looking for care. We will lose a few children after preschool graduation, and have had several families request school-age summer care.

Tuition

Tuition will be increased again effective Monday, September 2. Our current rates will be reviewed next month, and letters mailed to families the beginning of June in order to give them adequate notice.

Staff:

8 staff

We lost one of our part-time staff, and continue advertising for potential candidates, but hiring dependable, qualified individuals remains a challenge. We are blessed to have one and possibly two college students helping this summer. Susie Yoo has been coming on Tuesday's to do "Music and Movement" with the classrooms. The children love her and look forward to her weekly visits. She has also expressed a desire to possibly help out as a part-time aide, if needed. Since she is here on a Visa, currently looking into clearances, and other documentation.

Snacks:

Healthy snacks are expensive to purchase, and parents do help to supply some. We welcome donations of fruit, crackers, juice, milk, cereal, eggs, cereal bars, and other food items.

Classroom Supplies:

We continue to build up an inventory of classroom/custodial supplies to see us through the summer months.

Fundraising:

The annual yard sale will be held in July or August. Donations are still needed, and can be placed on the stage.

STARS:

Working on our review coming up 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. We welcome any help with these projects.

PreK Counts:

Currently 8 of our 10 spots for the fall have been filled, so we only have 2 available openings remaining.

Equipment: Over the last 6 months or so we have had numerous issues with the coded lock on the front double doors not working properly. Valley Lock and Key came and had to replace it with a new one. The codes also had to be changed from 4 to six digits. Ed Bilich graciously helped us with this changeover.