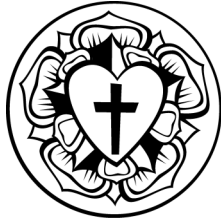


ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
3597 WEST MAIN STREET
PO BOX 5716
BELLEVILLE PA 17004

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

The Parish Messenger



St. John's Lutheran Church, Belleville, Pennsylvania

SUMMER 2024



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

Most of the antiques in our home, besides myself, tend to be treasures which have been handed down from our families. One of the family heirlooms which I highly prize is an old lantern that my father, so I am told, used to light his path from the family farm house to the barn where his daily chores awaited him. That old fashioned lantern is a humble little light. By today's standards I would imagine that light seemed very dim indeed and cast its light but a little distance. One thing can be said of those old lanterns. They gave sufficient light for the next step that needed to be taken.

If you think seriously about life, one could be led to ask, "But isn't that really all the light that one needs...enough for the next step?" The answer to that, I believe, is "Yes!" God does not reveal our life plans all at once. I very much doubt that we could handle it if God did! God does, however, reveal as much as we are capable of receiving.

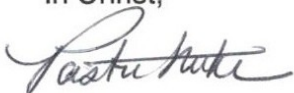
The Bible does not fall completely open at any single moment. In fact, the most seasoned student of the Bible must live with its many mysteries still. But the Scriptures do shed light for the next step of the journey. The Bible as God's holy Word will yield a daily light of truth and a daily light of strength that you and I so desperately need. We are called to follow the Lord even where and when we cannot fully see the ending and by carrying the lantern of God's Word we can rest assured that our pathways will be illuminated.

The Psalmist who wrote the 119th psalm says in part: "Your Word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light for my path" (Psalm 119:105). This illumination of which the psalmist speaks has been given most fully to us when Jesus Christ came into the world. Jesus brought the true light of God into a world where many people walked in darkness; whether it was the darkness caused by disease, hatred, pain, loneliness, or death. Everywhere Christ walked, he brought light and life to people, some of whom had lived in darkness for so long they didn't even realize how dark their world was!

The Gospel of John begins so wonderfully when it is said of Christ: "In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God and the Word was God. He was in the very beginning with God; all things were made through Him, and without Him was not anything made that was made. In Him was life and the life was the LIGHT of humanity. The light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it. The true light that enlightens every person was coming into the world. And to all who believed in Him, he gave power to become the children of God" (John 1:1-5,9,12).

We are indeed the children of God and we live by faith that the darkness of this world will give way to Christ's own brilliant light. May the light of Christ's love guide your steps in the way of peace and hope and joy throughout these coming summer months!

In Christ,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Pastor Mike".

Pastor Mike

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 6/11/2024
\$ 14,626.91

January 1 through June 11, 2024

Income \$ 114,305.23 Expense \$ 100,717.01
Net Income \$ 13,588.22

Daycare Financial Report

Checking account balance 6/11/2024
\$ 17,388.86

January 1 through June 11, 2024

Income \$ 154,387.88 Expense \$ 144,238.06
Net Income \$ 10,149.82



Bible Study

The Tuesday morning sessions will resume on September 3 at 11:00am.

Comfort Knotting

The ladies will come together again on Thursday, September 5 at 9:30am.

Council

The next monthly meeting is scheduled for Thursday, September 12 at 6:30pm.

Sunday School

The adult class which meets in the blue room will resume again in September. Date to be included in Sunday bulletins and the fall newsletter.

Council has been discussing security cameras for use outside of the church. Several quotes were obtained, and at the June meeting they voted to move forward pending congregation approval.

A brief congregational meeting is scheduled for Sunday, July 7 following worship to discuss and vote on this project. A letter containing the quote and other information will be available in member mailboxes (to save on postage) on Sunday, June 23. Any remaining letters will be mailed out the following day, Monday, June 24.



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 carillon at West Kish stopped working last fall, and the old system is broken beyond reasonable repair. A quote of \$5,560.00 was obtained for a new more efficient model. The carillon bank account balance of \$4,081.00 will cover all but \$1,477.00.

If you would like to make a donation to help offset the cost, please send your gift to ~

West Kish Presbyterian Church,
PO Box 98, Belleville.

Notate "carillon" on the check or envelope.

Thank You

To those persons who helped with the church's float in the Memorial Day parade. We were awarded 2nd place.

Everyone who made breakfast casseroles and/or provided other goodies for the Mother/Father brunch last Sunday. It was so nice to see so many members and guests enjoying the good food and fellowship.

The annual yard sale is scheduled for Tuesday, August 13 from noon-7pm and Wednesday, August 14 from 8am-noon. 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.

We have already blessed us with a nice selection of items, including furniture! Donations may be placed either in front of, or on the stage (if you can find room). Thank you!!

Please prayerfully consider lending your voice as part of the choir. After being absent from our worship services these last few years, we are looking to begin in September.

If interested, please sign-up in the narthex. More details will be included in upcoming bulletins and the fall newsletter.



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.



Summer is Liberia Tuition Sponsorship time, and Joe will be available in the narthex the next few weeks before/after worship with available profiles.

As a sponsor, 100% of your tuition payment for a student, whether you are a one-time or long-time sponsor, goes directly to the school to pay for his or her tuition fees.

Please prayerfully consider either renewing or becoming a new sponsor in the program. **YOU** can make a difference in the life of a child.

ALL checks should be made payable to ~

God's Precious Children

AND MUST be given to Joe or mailed to the address listed on the profile.



JUNE 16 through 30

SERVICE SCHEDULE

June 16

Elevator: Mike Harshbarger

Greeters: Mike and Michele Harshbarger

Lay Reader: Mike Harshbarger

Money Counters: John and Denise Chester

Sound System: Ed Bilich

June 23

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger

Greeters: Chelsea and Merritt Reed

Lay Reader: Chelsea Reed

Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler

Sound System: Joe Kanagy

June 30

Elevator: Joe Kanagy

Greeters: John and Brenda Boring

Lay Reader: John Boring

Money Counters: John and Denise Chester

Sound System: Ed Bilich

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

Altar Care ~ Susan Keller

Altar Flower Delivery ~ Susan Keller

Bulletin Delivery ~ Jim and Georgianna Buchanan

Social Hour ~ No Social hour until September

JULY SERVICE SCHEDULE

July 7

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger

Greeters: Jim and Georgianna Buchanan

Lay Reader: Jim Buchanan

Money Counters: John and Denise Chester

Sound System: Ed Bilich

July 14

Elevator: Ed Bilich

Greeter: Edna Chester

Lay Reader: John Chester

Money Counters: Sue Lynch and Carol Fultz

Sound System: Joe Kanagy

July 21

Elevator: Joe Kanagy

Greeters: Ken and Nancy Wyland

Lay Reader: Ken Wyland

Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler

Sound System: Jay Byler

July 28

Elevator: Mike Harshbarger

Greeter: Deb French

Lay Reader: Deb French

Money Counters: Joe Kanagy and Randy Harshbarger

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 ~ Georgianna Buchanan

Bulletin Delivery ~ John and Brenda Boring

Social Hour ~ No Social hour until September



AUGUST SERVICE SCHEDULE

August 4

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger

Greeter: Jami Zook

Lay Reader: Jami Zook

Money Counters: John and Denise Chester

Sound System: Ed Bilich

August 11

Elevator: Ed Bilich

Greeters: Don and Rosalie Smith

Lay Reader: Joe Kanagy

Money Counters: Sue Lynch and Carol Fultz

Sound System: Joe Kanagy

August 18

Elevator: Joe Kanagy

Greeters: Bob and Susan Keller

Lay Reader: Ed Bilich

Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler

Sound System: Jay Byler

August 25

Elevator: Mike Harshbarger

Greeters: Mike and Michele Harshbarger

Lay Reader: Mike Harshbarger

Money Counters: Joe Kanagy and Randy Harshbarger

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 ~ Nancy Penepacker

Altar Flower Delivery ~ Nancy Penepacker

Bulletin Delivery ~ Randy Harshbarger

Social Hour ~ No Social hour until September

St. John's Lutheran Church

July



2024

9:30am Worship Sunday school resumes in September	1	2	3	4  Happy 4th of July Daycare and Church Office Closed	5 Daycare Closed for Mandated Training Day	6
7 Holy Communion	8	9	10	11 No Council Meetings Until September	12	13 
14 Pastor away Guest speaker from the Gideon's	15	16 	17	18	19	20
21 Holy Communion	22 6:30pm Property Committee	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

St. John's Lutheran Church

August

2024

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
Looking Ahead Monday, September 2 ~ Labor Day Daycare and Office Closed Tuesday, September 3 ~ Bible Study resumes Thursday, September 5 ~ Knotting resumes Thursday, September 12 ~ Council Meeting				1	2	3
						
4 Holy Communion	5	6	7	8 No Council Meetings Until September	9	10
11	12	13 Noon—7pm 	14 8am-Noon 	15	16	17 
18 Holy Communion	19 6:30pm Property Committee Meeting	20	21	22	23	24
25	26 	27	28	29	30	

St. John's Lutheran Church
Minutes of the May 9, 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 May 9, 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

The meeting was called to order by Carol Fultz.

Devotions: _Nancy Penepacker led devotions.

Approval of Minutes: The minutes from the 04/11/24 meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Nancy Penepacker and seconded by Ed Bilich 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 Michele Harshbarger and seconded by __Nancy Penepacker_. Motion carried.

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

Pastor's report: Copy of Report provided

Committee Reports:

Cemetery - Nancy –to talk to John Chester about who's mowing, grass long around stones

Christian Ed/Youth – Michele __Nothing to report

Day Care – Carol __nothing to report -the director Valarie_to supply report

Finance – Jim _Keep Randolf Fund per the family 80% earnings to Day Care
20% to retain in fund

Will ask JVB to give idea to keep fund

Long Range - Ed – nothing to report

Music & Worship – Carol – nothing to report

Mutual Ministry – Nancy _ include Nancy ,Rosemary, Carol , Pastor Sigler(2 more needed)

Property – Joe Kanagy- Cut 2 doors to kitchen and 2 doors in hall to fit

Ed Bilich presented quote for security camera

Ed made a motion and Pastor Sigler seconded to apply for Federal funds available for Security (need more info)

Railing needs repaired outside back steps from Fellowship Hall

Safety – Carol Fultz

Social Ministry – Michele __Called Newspaper to fix times in Church Notes

Drinks, donuts, and fruit tray provided by Social Ministry June 2

Missions – Michele _Nothing to Report

Website – Ed – Denise Chester agreed to back up Ed on the Website

Old Business: Mother Father Brunch June 2, May 26 deadline to sign up (at least 20 people)

Synod Assembly reps payment to be sent –Joe to register

**New door codes-If needed ask Kelly or a Council member Motion made Nancy
Seconded ED**

Parade Float-meeting next week to design

New Business:

Discretionary Fund information not to be included in minutes

Sharing the Peace-agreed to resume shaking hands

Offering Plates-need ushers-Agreed to ask people Sunday mornings

Revision of FH contract-to be done next meeting by Property Committee

Susie's Contract-Salaried or weekly- paid for weeks she did not play?

2 paid sick days , leave of absence- use vacation available

West Kish Presbyterian is asking for donations to replace the old carillon bell

System-agreed to have request placed in bulletin and newsletter

Motion to end the meeting –Pastor Sigler , 2nd Michele Harshbarger

With there being no further discussion, the meeting was properly adjourned and closed with the Lord's Prayer. Next meeting will be held on June 6, 2024 at 6:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Michele Harshbarger, Secretary

Daycare June Report

Enrollment:

39

Attendance always decreases after preschool and Pre-K counts graduation, and increases again in the fall when school resumes. We have had six families request school-age summer care.

Tuition

Tuition will be increased again effective Monday, September 2. We are in the process of reviewing our rates and will be sending letters to families in the next 2 weeks to give them adequate notice.

Staff:

11 staff ~ 2 new staff were hired and began in May, along with 1 (summer only) staff (2nd summer person in the next few weeks, waiting on paperwork) to help with school age, vacations and requested days off.

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:

Hoping to use some of the yard sale proceeds to help purchase classroom and custodial supplies for the 24-25 school year.

Fundraising:

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

Keystone STARS

We passed our Keystone STARS review and remain at a STAR 3 level. There are 4 levels. We would need to hire more staff with early childhood (or related) degrees in order to obtain a level 4. That is challenging in rural areas, especially the ability to pay a comparable wage.

DHS:

We passed our inspection, but there were a few things we were cited for, which we either have corrected, or are in the process of correcting.

Pre-K Counts:

Pre-K is finished for the school year, and will resume again the end of August. We are blessed to 9 of our 10 spots for the fall filled, so we only have 1 available opening remaining.