

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 2026



*May you walk and talk
with God this summer.
In whatever you do,
wherever you go,
each and every 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
10:45am 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
Website ~ stjohnsbelleville.org



Pastor's Page

Summer is a time for many, if not most of us, to get away at least a little bit for a vacation. Some stay close to home, some go camping in the mountains, some head to the beach and perhaps a few of us will take a deep breath, pay a lot of money for airline tickets and get away to someplace wonderful. If your traveling soon and will be doing so by air, may I recommend our family's favorite airlines; LUTHERAN AIR. It's a cheap, no-frills airline where flying is such an uplifting experience that you'll never forget it.

Here are some things to know about the flight before you depart. There are no first class seats on any Lutheran Airways flight because nobody wants to sit in the front. Meals are always potluck. Rows 6-10 are asked to bring rolls, rows 11-15 are asked to bring a salad, rows 16-21 a main dish and the last rows are asked to bring desert. Everyone is responsible for his or her own baggage and everyone knows that Lutherans have a lot of baggage! All fares are by free will offering and the flight attendants will not let you disembark from the plane until the budget is met...so buckle up and prepare yourselves for a long flight!

The flight attendants are wonderful in giving you instructions before the plane taxis out of the gate. They go something like this: In the event of a sudden loss of cabin pressure, we will be very surprised because the plane never gets above 2,000 feet in altitude, so don't bother with those annoying little masks that pop down from above your seat, you're going to have much bigger problems to worry about than those masks with the rubber tubes. Just stuff that contraption back up in those holes above you. In the event of an emergency water landing, you should probably just forget about it. Start saying the Lord's Prayer and hope you have time to get past the part about "forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us."

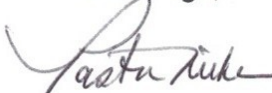
Lunch on the plane will start right about noon and it's buffet style. The coffee pot is up front. Following lunch there will be the hymn sing with Lutheran hymnals in the pocket in front of your seat, and no, we do not take requests for hymns. The pilot and co-pilot have selected them in advance, whether you know them or not. Don't forget to sign the attendance book in front of your seat pocket as well. We want to know whose here and who isn't.

Onboard Communion will also be served on every Lutheran Airways flight. Three dollars (\$3.00) will be collected from those wanting wine. Grape juice is complimentary although we will likely frown at you if you request it. Bread can be found in a small foil bag, also in front of you. If the bag is difficult for you to open, please ask for assistance. If we find it on your seat we will know that you did not fully participate and that's a no-no.

And finally, our standard prayer before the meal goes like this: God is great and God is good, and we thank Him for the food, Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, may we land wherever it is we are going, or at least pretty close. Amen.

If your plans include flying this summer, I do hope you will consider Lutheran Airways. It's such a graceful way to fly!

Blessings,



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 or 717-310-4444
Organist – Rick Cole
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**

Angela Parko, Director
Phone 717-935-2959

St. John's Congregational Council

	<u>Term Expires</u>
Steve Cleck	end of 2028
Jim Buchanan ~ Treasurer	end of 2028
Carol Fultz ~ President	end of 2026
Joe Kanagy ~ Secretary	end of 2028
Sue Lynch	end of 2027
Nancy Penepacker ~ Vice Pres.	end of 2027

Meetings are held at 6:30pm the second Thursday of each month, with the exception of July and August.

St. John's Financial Report

Checking account balance 05/27/2026
\$ 27,438.47

January 1 through April 28, 2026

Income \$ 112,566.16 Expense \$ 90,948.85
Net Income \$ 21,617.31

* Funds were trf from the Thrivent Investments (\$30,141.32) to cover the bathroom expense, and a payment of \$10,000 has been paid to Sunset Constr.

Daycare Financial Report

Checking account balance 05/27/2026
\$ 13,200.44

January 1 through April 28, 2026

Income \$ 176,584.01 Expense \$ 171,852.52
Net Income \$ 4,731.49

Taking a Summer Break

Bible Study

The Wednesday morning sessions will resume in the fall, after the pastor returns from vacation time they are planning to take in September.

Comfort Knotting

Knotters will meet on Thursday, September 3 at 9:30am.

Council

No meetings in July/August, the next monthly meeting will be Thursday, September 10 at 6:30pm.

Sunday School

The adult class which meets in the blue room will resume again in the fall.



Synod Assembly is being held on Saturday, June 6 at Camp Mt. Luther. Pastor Sigler, Karen and Michele Harshbarger will be attending.

We will begin using the With One Voice (blue hymnal) on Sunday June 7 through August 30.

The pastor is taking vacation time Monday, June 29 through Tuesday, July 7. Ed Bilich will preach and lead worship. Pastor Ken Longfield is covering for emergencies.

There will be no communion on Sunday, July 5. It will be held on July 12 after the Pastor's return.

IN OUR CHURCH and COMMUNITY

VOLUNTEER OPPORTUNITIES

Valley View Haven is in need of volunteers!

The areas they could most use help with are in-house transportation of residents to and from beauty shop appointments (M-F 8am–4pm) and Sunday chapel services (9:30am). Volunteers do not need to sign-up for an entire day; any amount of time given would be extremely helpful!

There are also opportunities available helping with activities, Café or Memory Lane unit. They currently have a resident in Memory Lane who has her own sewing machine, and would love to have a volunteer assist her with sewing projects.

If you are interested or would like to know more about these opportunities, please contact Wendy Garlock at 717-935-2105. ext 1523 or email her at WGARLOCK@VVRCONLINE.ORG

It's not too late to register for the Camp Mount Luther summer program. The church will once again pay fees for *any child* who would like to attend.

Flyers can be found in the narthex and more information is available at www.campmountluther.org.



Henderson-Bohn Funeral Home located along 655 between Belleville and Reedsville is sponsoring a *Care and Share Community Gathering*, beginning at 6:00pm on Tuesday, June 2.

Care & Share is designed to be a welcoming space where people can come together to talk about life, loss, faith, and the challenges that come with navigating difficult seasons.

Whether you are grieving, walking through a transition, or simply looking for meaningful conversation and encouragement.

If you or someone you know could benefit from this supportive community conversation, you are welcome and encouraged to attend.

For more information, please contact the home at 717-935-2533 or 717-667-6313.

Liberia Tuition Sponsorship time will soon be here. If you are not already, please prayerfully consider becoming a new sponsor in the program. By providing a child with the opportunity for an education, YOU can make a difference in their life.

More information will be included in upcoming bulletins.

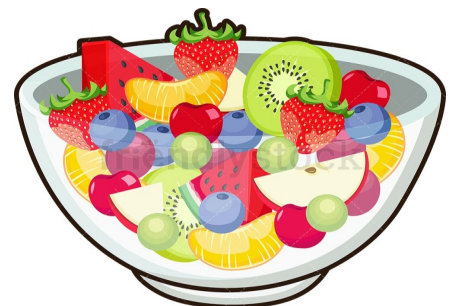


The Mother/Father Brunch is scheduled for Sunday, June 14 immediately following the service. Everything is being provided. There will be a variety of breakfast casseroles, fruit salad and pastries to enjoy.

If have not already, take a moment to sign-up in the narthex. Please feel free to invite family and/or friends who may enjoy this time of food and fellowship.



Social Ministry



Daycare News

On Thursday evening, May 28 graduation was held in the church fellowship hall for eleven Pre-K Counts and Daycare preschool students. Pastor Sigler welcomed the families and opened and closed the ceremony with prayer. Some of the children have been with us since they were infants, and will be leaving us in the fall to begin kindergarten. How quickly time passes!!

The annual yard sale is scheduled for Tuesday, August 11 from 12:00pm to 7:00pm and Wednesday, August 12 from 8:00am till 1:00pm. We have been blessed with quite a few donations but more are needed!

Anything in good, clean useable condition, including furniture, would be appreciated. There is very little room left on the stage, but donations may be placed behind or in front of it. If you have any large items, wait until after the Mother/Father brunch before bringing them. Please contact the church office, and we will pick-up furniture/donations if you are unable to transport them.



REMINDER ~ Please, make sure your items are in good clean condition...we **do not** have room in the dumpster for things which are dirty or no longer usable. **NO clothing or televisions!!!**

We are saying good-bye to Pre-K Counts teacher, Alicia Hartzler. She is taking over the school-age class for the summer, and will then leave for Romania in August. Her sister and husband, serve as missionaries there and are expecting another child this fall, so Alicia is looking forward to spending time helping with their family. She also worked in a Romanian orphanage for a year after graduating and has always wanted to return. We wish her well and pray God's blessing as she begins a new chapter in her life.

A qualified candidate was recently interviewed and has accepted the Pre-K Counts teacher position. More details will be included in the September newsletter.

Daycare May Council Meeting Report

Enrollment ~ 50

Staff ~ 12 staff (one is a part-time college student) Our college student has returned for the summer and informed us that she will also be available to work three days a week beginning this fall due to her class schedule. Several of our families are expecting babies and with the infants being enrolled this year, we were looking at hiring another part-time staff member. God in His goodness has provided and blessed us with exactly what we needed.

Fundraisers

The annual yard sale is scheduled to be held again in August. We are already off to a good start. Donations can be placed on/behind the stage.

Pre-K Counts

Our Pre-K program was recently assessed by the PA State Office of Child Development and Learning. We scored exceptionally well and fully meet their program criteria.

DHS

Our annual inspection will be this month. The state does not give us a specific day, the inspector just "shows up" so we always strive to be in a state of readiness.

BELLEVILLE LIONS CLUB

— IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE —
PENNS CREEK CHAPTER OF

TROUT STOCKING NOTICE



The **Belleville Lions Club**, in partnership with the **Penns Creek Chapter of Trout Unlimited**, has stocked trout in Belleville from the **Route 655 bridge** to the **Walnut Street bridge**.

FISHING RESTRICTIONS
APRIL 4 - JUNE 6

During this period, fishing is permitted only for individuals with disabilities and children ages 12 and under.



Signs have been posted along the creek banks throughout the designated area.



JUNE SERVICE SCHEDULE

June 7

Elevator: Mike Harshbarger
Greeter: Nancy Penepacker
Lay Reader: Erica Hargenrader
Money Counters: John and Denise Chester
Sound System: Ed Bilich
Ushers: Mike and Michele Harshbarger

June 14

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger
Greeter: Cindy Burk
Lay Reader: Ed Bilich
Money Counters: Carol Fultz and Sue Lynch
Sound System: Joe Kanagy
Ushers: Sue Lynch and Joe Kanagy

June 21

Elevator: Jim Buchanan
Greeters: Mike and Michele Harshbarger
Lay Reader: Mike Harshbarger
Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler
Sound System: Calvin Byler
Ushers: Carol Fultz and Nancy Penepacker

June 28

Elevator: Joe Kanagy
Greeters: Chelsea and Merritt Reed
Lay Reader: Chelsea Reed
Money Counters: Randy Harshbarger and Joe Kanagy
Sound System: Jay Byler
Ushers: Jay and Joy Byler

Altar Care Flower Delivery ~ Joy Byler

Bulletin Delivery ~ John and Brenda Boring

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

**Aside from being included in each
newsletter, a copy of the service
schedule for those fulfilling
monthly worship duties can be
found on the bulletin board in the
hallway between the offices.**

JULY SERVICE SCHEDULE

July 5

Elevator: Mike Harshbarger
Greeters: Jim and Georgianna
Lay Reader: Jim Buchanan
Money Counters: John and Denise Chester
Sound System: Ed Bilich
Ushers: Mike and Michele Harshbarger

July 12

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger
Greeter: Lucy Magda
Lay Reader: Jami Zook
Money Counters: Carol Fultz and Sue Lynch
Sound System: Joe Kanagy
Ushers: Sue Lynch and Joe Kanagy

July 19

Elevator: Jim Buchanan
Greeters: Ken and Nancy Wyland
Lay Reader: Ken Wyland
Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler
Sound System: Calvin Byler
Ushers: Carol Fultz and Nancy Penepacker

July 26

Elevator: Joe Kanagy
Greeter: Deb French
Lay Reader: Deb French
Money Counters: Randy Harshbarger and Joe Kanagy
Sound System: Jay Byler
Ushers: Jay and Joy Byler

Altar Care Flower Delivery ~ Georgianna Buchanan

Bulletin Delivery ~ Randy Harshbarger

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AUGUST SERVICE SCHEDULE

August 2

Elevator: Mike Harshbarger
Greeters: Don and Rosalie Smith
Lay Reader: Joe Kanagy
Money Counters: John and Denise Chester
Sound System: Ed Bilich
Ushers: Mike and Michele Harshbarger

August 9

Elevator: Randy Harshbarger
Greeters: Jay and Joy Byler
Lay Reader: Ed Bilich
Money Counters: Carol Fultz and Sue Lynch
Sound System: Joe Kanagy
Ushers: Sue Lynch and Joe Kanagy

August 16

Elevator: Jim Buchanan
Greeters: Mike and Michele Harshbarger
Lay Reader: Mike Harshbarger
Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler
Sound System: Calvin Byler
Ushers: Carol Fultz and Nancy Penepacker

August 23

Elevator: Joe Kanagy
Greeters: Ken and Nancy Wyland
Lay Reader: Ken Wyland
Money Counters: Randy Harshbarger and Joe Kanagy
Sound System: Jay Byler
Ushers: Jay and Joy Byler

August 30

Elevator: Ed Bilich
Greeters: Jami Zook and Mike Boring
Lay Reader: Jami Zook
Money Counters: Jay and Joy Byler
Sound System: Calvin Byler
Ushers: Carol Fultz and Nancy Penepacker

Altar Care Flower Delivery ~ Nancy Penepacker

Bulletin Delivery ~ Randy Harshbarger

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St. John`s Lutheran Church
Minutes of the April 9 2026 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 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM in the blue room.

Present: Pastor Mike Sigler, President Carol Fultz, Sue Lynch, Jim Buchanan, Joe Kanagy, Steve Cleck, Nancy Penepacker, absent.

The meeting was called to order by President, Carol Fultz

Devotions:

Schedule for 2026

February---Sue Lynch

March--- Jim Buchanan

April---Joe Kanagy

May---Nancy Penepacker

June--- Steve Cleck

September--- Jim Buchanan

October—Sue Lynch

November---Joe Kanagy

December---Nancy Penepacker

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the March 19 Meeting were presented. A motion to accept the minutes was made by Jim Buchanan and seconded by Sue Lynch. Motion carried.

Pastor`s Report was presented.

Financial Reports:

The Financial reports were presented

St. John`s----A motion to accept the church financial report was made by Pastor Mike, and properly seconded by Joe Kanagy. Motion carried.

St John`s Daycare---A motion to accept the daycare financial report was made by Sue Lynch, and properly seconded by Steve Cleck. Motion carried.

Committee Reports:

Cemetery---Joe---Nothing
additional members

Christian Ed---Carol—Looking for

Daycare—Carol---Report Presented

Finance—Jim—Nothing to report

Evangelism/Mission—Steve—Had a good meeting
nothing

Music/Worship---Nancy—

Mutual Ministry---Nancy—will meet before summer

Property—Joe—Waiting
on vanity top

Social Ministry---Sue—Meal for shutins May 17; June 14, Mother—Father Brunch; August picnic for Church and Daycare

Old Business:

New Church Phone Tree and prayer chain still in the works

Pastor wants to get committees up and running

New Business:





There being no further discussion, the meeting was properly adjourned and closed with the Lord`s prayer. Next meeting will be May 14 2026

Respectfully submitted, Joseph Kanagy, Secretary

St. John's Lutheran Church

JUNE

2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>9:00am <i>Worship</i></p> <p>10:15am <i>Sunday school</i></p>	1	2	3	4	5	6 Synod Assembly at CML
7 Holy Communion	8	9	10	11 6:30pm Council Meeting	12 	13
14 	15	16 11:30am Evangelism Comm mtg. 6:30pm Property Committee	17	18	19	20
21 Holy Communion	22 	23	24	25	26	27
28	29 Pastor on vacation through July 7	30		<p>Summer is here!</p> <p><small>This is the day the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.</small></p> <p><small>PSALM 118:24</small></p> 		

St. John's Lutheran Church

JULY

2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>9:00am Worship Sunday school resumes in September</p>			1	2	3 Daycare Closed for Mandated Training Day Church Office Closed	4  Independence Day
5  Enjoy summer... worship wherever you are!	6	7 Pastor returns from vacation	8	9 No Council Meetings until September	10	11
12 Holy Communion	13	14	15	16	17	18
19 Holy Communion	20	21 6:30pm Property Committee	22	23	24	25
26	27	28	29	30	31	Aug 1 

St. John's Lutheran Church

AUGUST

2026

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
<p>9:00am Worship Sunday school resumes in September</p>	<p>Looking Ahead</p> <p>Monday, September 7 ~ Labor Day Daycare and Office Closed</p> <p>Thursday, September 3 ~ Knotting resumes</p> <p>Thursday, September 10 ~ Council Meeting</p>					<p>1</p> 
<p>2</p> <p>Holy Communion</p>	<p>3</p>	<p>4</p>	<p>5</p>	<p>6</p>	<p>7</p>	<p>8</p>
<p>9</p> 	<p>10</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Noon—7pm</p> 	<p>12</p> <p>8am—1pm</p> 	<p>13</p> <p>No Council Meetings until September</p>	<p>14</p>	<p>15</p>
<p>16</p> <p>Holy Communion</p>	<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>St. John's has MOW's</p> <p>6:30pm Property Committee</p>	<p>19</p>	<p>20</p> <p>St. John's has MOW's</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>
<p>23</p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>30</p>	<p>24</p> <hr style="width: 100%;"/> <p>31</p>	<p>25</p> <p>St. John's has MOW's</p>	<p>26</p>	<p>27</p> <p>St. John's has MOW's</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>