

The Circle

October 2020

St. John's Lutheran Church, Phoenixville, Pennsylvania



Pastor Wayne ... For Your Consideration

Jesus gave us a remarkable gift! **Success is not our responsibility.**

I realize this sounds odd and is very, very difficult to accept. We are driven by the need to succeed. To have something to show for our efforts. We are perpetually focused on ourselves, on our success, on our honor and on our status. We are constantly trying to justify ourselves by "our works." Our challenge is to grow into a new way of living.

We need to remember our personal "status" has already been addressed. We ARE JUSTIFIED! The Lord has done ALL of our needed salvation work. We ARE JUSTIFIED! We do not need to keep trying to improve our score trying to be accepted into heaven. It simply does not work that way.

Our "calling" (and responsibility) is quite simply the Lord. We are to worship the Lord, to be about the work of our Lord, to bring honor and glory to our Lord, to work and struggle and endure for our Lord, to introduce others to our Lord. And leave the "success" (the "results") to the Lord.

Life is so much less complicated this way, for now we get to give thanks to the Lord for everything. We get to live lives of gratitude for this remarkable gift! To share with others in every way we can what has been entrusted to us (skills, abilities, time, dollars, and hope). To do everything we can to make sure everyone we know, everyone we meet, is introduced to our Lord. So they too might be gifted by the Lord with this remarkable gift.

We are growing toward holiness. We are not there yet. We will not be "holy" (sanctified) until we die and are resurrected. But along the way, while still here on our journey, we can grow in our ability to focus on the Lord (holy living), in our capacity to "see" the Lord at work among us, and to point out when we see these things so others may have more opportunities to encounter the Lord. Our calling is to give thanks, to model, and to invite, the results are totally up to the Lord.

Pastor Wayne

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Reformation

503 years after Martin Luther's brave act of nailing the 95 theses to the church door, we will celebrate Reformation on October 24th & 25th. Wherever and however you worship, please **wear the color red** to remember Luther and this church festival. Volunteers (teens & adults) are sought to serve in the Reformation procession on Sunday, October 25th. Family members may serve together to carry the torches, cross, and book. Please contact Sonya Sowards at office@stjohnphoenixville.org or (610) 933-3947 ext. 2 to volunteer.



From the Director of Music:

Music is a gift from God given to all creation. It is a means of connecting with God and with one another, and of unifying our thoughts and understanding, our heartbeats and breath.

Whether by singing, playing, moving, or listening, music is an integral part of the majority of Christians' worship life. Praising the Lord is a scriptural mandate (see Psalm 150) and singing is a primary way most Christians have "praised the Lord" together.

Following along with the poetry of the hymns while organist John Quinn provides inspiring accompaniments has given us a new appreciation for the texts but it still isn't the same as singing in community.

It is still not safe for us to all be singing together but due to the size of our space, especially the soaring roof and balcony location, two cantors will begin singing the hymns and responses Sundays from the loft in October. Hearing the sung music and following along isn't the same as singing it yourself but it is a beginning.

Tom Snyder
Director of Music



CHILDREN'S HANDBELLS begins rehearsals Thursday, October 1st, from 6:45-7:30 p.m. in Kley Hall. This new group is open to kids in third grade and above. Children do not need to be able to read music to participate, just be able to count and follow some simple directions. We'll have social distancing, each person with his own music, wearing gloves and masks. Wear your own masks, special bell gloves will be provided. We'll be starting with six ringers with room for more! Want additional, information, please email Director of Music Tom Snyder at ftsiii@gmail.com with your questions!

All Saints

We will begin our Sunday worship by gathering safely distanced in the columbarium and then, led by a bagpiper, process six feet apart into the sanctuary for the rest of the service. Join with others as we remember the saints that have gone before us.

Our long-time tradition at St. John's is to gather the names of saints who have passed on in the past year in order to recognize them during our services on All Saints' Day. If you have lost loved ones since November 2, 2019, please send the name(s) to Sonya Sowards by Monday, October 26th and mark them as "Recent Saints." Those names will be listed in the bulletin and remembered with a tolling of a bell during the services on October 31st and November 1st.

A more recent tradition is to write names of saints on copper tags which are then hung in a columbarium tree. This is a personal remembrance and can include any saints that you wish to remember. Due to COVID-19 safety concerns, we ask that you either email the names (subject: "Personal Saints") to office@stjohnphoenixville.org or turn in names printed on paper during the worship services on October 31st and November 1st. All "Personal Saints" names will be transferred later to copper tags by the youth of St. John's during a safely-distanced Youth Service Day and then hung on a columbarium tree.

Remember, for our purposes, those who have died after November 2, 2019 are "Recent Saints" and all others who have died in the past are "Personal Saints."



From the Director of Children, Youth, and Family Ministries:

The 2020-2021 Sunday School year is off to a wonderful start. The year began with the families' completing a scavenger hunt on campus to collect their Sunday School supplies. They stopped at the place where Pastor can speak God's Word outside and at Jesus' symbol. We have about a dozen families participating in at-home Sunday School via Zoom or using the emailed lesson. We start with dancing and singing before hearing the Bible story and completing an activity.



Confirmation classes began the next weekend. We had St. John's first non-lock-in lock-in. The lock-in started with each confirmand and a parent shopping for food and other essentials for PACS. The lock-in ended with us welcoming twelve 7th graders on the start of their confirmation journey during Evening Light.

Even though faith formation looks a bit different this year, we are excited to continue helping others. The Sunday School children decorated offering boxes where they are collecting their offering. The offering is going to adopt an otter at the Elmwood Park Zoo. They chose to adopt the otter last spring and we will fulfill that goal this fall. The 107 School Kits that were put together for Lutheran World Relief will go a long way to helping children around the world be ready for school. Thank you to everyone who donated money and school supplies to this cause. Let the good feeling of helping others help you get through the stresses of 2020. Take some time to think about ways you can help others not just financially, but with your time and talents.



God Bless and Happy Fall,
Jen Wentworth

P.S. Please bring your bagged aluminum cans to Kley Hall for recycling. They are used to support our youth mission trips.

Save the Date for Trunk or Treat

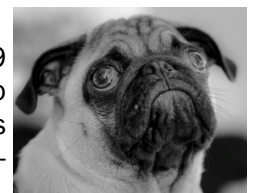
October 25th from 4-6 p.m.

Plans are in the works to adapt Trunk or Treat to the world of COVID-19. Stay tuned for further details about being a decorated car or bringing trick or treaters.



Animal Blessings

Because of the COVID-19 pandemic, there will be no Blessing of the Animals this year. We hope to resume this in 2021.



First Bible

The dates for our First Bible classes have been set for October 18th, 25th, and November 1st. The class will take place from 11:30-12:30 in Kley Hall. We ask that third graders (and fourth graders who did not receive their First Bible last year) and one parent attend the class together. All attendees will need to wear a mask and practice proper social distancing. Sarah Blattner will be serving as the First Bible leader.

The children will receive their First Bibles on Saturday, November 7th during Evening Light at 5 p.m. or on Sunday, November 8th during the 10:15 a.m. service. If you are interested in having your child attend this class, please email Jen Wentworth.



Italian Pasta Party 2020!

Phoenixville Area Time Bank is celebrating autumn with our 7th annual **Italian Pasta Party** on **Saturday, October 24th**. Enjoy a take-out dinner featuring Nick Castellano's traditional Italian gravy, meatballs and sausage (or a veggie sauce and gluten-free alternative), Parmesan cheese, breadsticks, salad, dessert! Delivery is available for an extra \$5.00 per address.

SAFETY is our goal for this year's spaghetti dinner. We offer contactless pickup and delivery of food. Eat your dinner in the safety and comfort of your own home!!

Order your meal and **pick up** on October 24th from **St John's Lutheran Church, 5:00 to 7:00 p.m.** Reservations are required; all dinners must be ordered online and pre-paid. All dinners come with a chance to win a raffle basket. **Tickets must be purchased by 5 p.m. on October 22nd.**

This year we'll be donating meals to the Good Samaritan Men's Shelter in Phoenixville. We encourage everyone who can to chip in and buy an extra meal!

Tickets available at: www.patimebank.org/pasta-party-2020

Questions? Call (610) 608-9281 or email pa.timedollar@gmail.com.



Sunday Morning Book Club

The Sunday Morning Book Club is now meeting on Wednesday nights from 7-8 p.m., sometimes in-person and sometimes on Zoom. Contact Jean Herbranson at deherb@juno.com for exact details and/or the Zoom link. We plan to read the following books over the next few months: *Sing, Unburied, Sing* by Jesmyn Ward, *The Woman in the Window* by A.J. Finn, *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens, *Flowers Over the Inferno* by Ilaria Tuti, *Eleanor Olyphant is Completely Fine* by Gail Honeyman, and *The Library Book* by Susan Orlean. Other titles will be added throughout the program year. Join us for one book or all of them!

"There never yet have been, nor are there now, too many good books." --Martin Luther

Who's Ready for ASP?

It is that time of year again where we are gathering volunteers for the Appalachian Service Project in the summer. We are planning as if ASP will be running for summer 2021. All high schoolers and adults are welcome to participate in this life-changing time of service in the Appalachian Mountains. Please email Jen Wentworth (wentworthj@stjohnphoenixville.org) if you are interested.



Dear people of St. John's:

Thank you for the amazing and generous retirement present! John and I are deeply grateful and will use it for travel when it is safe to do so.

Thank you for the wonderful retirement celebration. I was so pleased with the whole thing and deeply thank everyone who worked so hard to make that happen in spite of the COVID challenges.

Mostly, thank you for 24 years of living, growing and sharing in God's love as a faithful and loving church! My family and I were deeply blessed throughout our life together.

Love,

Pastor Cynthia Krommes

The Reformation

1. BIBLE
2. CALVIN
3. CHRISTIAN
4. ERASMUS
5. ETERNITY
6. EUCHARIST
7. FAITH
8. GRACE
9. HEAVEN
10. HOLY SPIRIT
11. HYMNS
12. KNOX
13. LUTHER
14. MELANCTHON
15. ORTHODOXY
16. PROTESTANT
17. PURITANS
18. REFORM
19. SALVATION
20. SIMONY
21. SIN
22. SYNOD
23. THESES
24. TRINITY
25. WORKS
26. ZWINGLI

The beauty of the Church
Is that it's a welcoming
Place where those
Who have nowhere else
To go can come inside
And worship with no
Questions asked
I didn't write this
Yet the words are
True for God welcomes
All regardless of who
We are or where our
Paths have led

Margaret Walker



People of God Involved in God's Work

October Sunday Staffing

Altar Guild

- 4 Nancy Cressman & Janet Ertell
- 11 Donna Anderson & Cathy Garrett
- 18 Jean Herbranson
- 25 Betty Hans & Jean Herbranson

Assisting Ministers

- 4 Tyler Pekofsky
- 11 Teresa Olsen
- 18 Brittney Walters
- 25 Nancy Cressman

Communion Assistants/Lectors

- 4 Erica Lucas
- 11 Bill & Sue Starling
- 18 Nancy Cressman
- 25 Mark Gerner

Counters

- 4 Stephen & Jennifer Drewes, Donna Anderson, Peg Yanoviak
- 11 Heather Yonosh, Donna Searchfield, Jeanne Schanzenbach
- 18 Mary Heiser, Mike & Cathy Kahl
- 25 Jack Ertell, Lilly Khan & Imtiaz Khan Lawrence

Ushers

- 4 Don Titus & Debbe Welsh
- 11 Nancy Cressman & Erica Lucas
- 18 Cathy Garrett & Paul Miller
- 25 Donna Anderson & Luanne Bindschusz

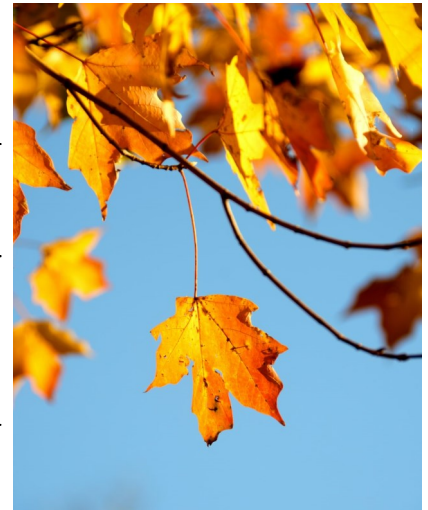
The gifts of God are freely given
 'Tis not the yoke of laws
 That frees us but the yoke of
 God's grace that sets us free
 For God's gifts are freely
 Given to sinners to the humble
 Even to the proudest God
 Offers his grace for grace is not
 Proud boasts not yet in humbleness
 Kneels that sins may be forgiven
 Humbleness kneels to ask for
 Mercy God alone calls
 Come to me by living water
 Shall walk all who seek my love
 Peace shall dwell in the valley
 Upon mountaintops my
 Peaceful love shall cover
 Earth Alleluia

Margaret Walker

Summary Financial Report as of August 31, 2020

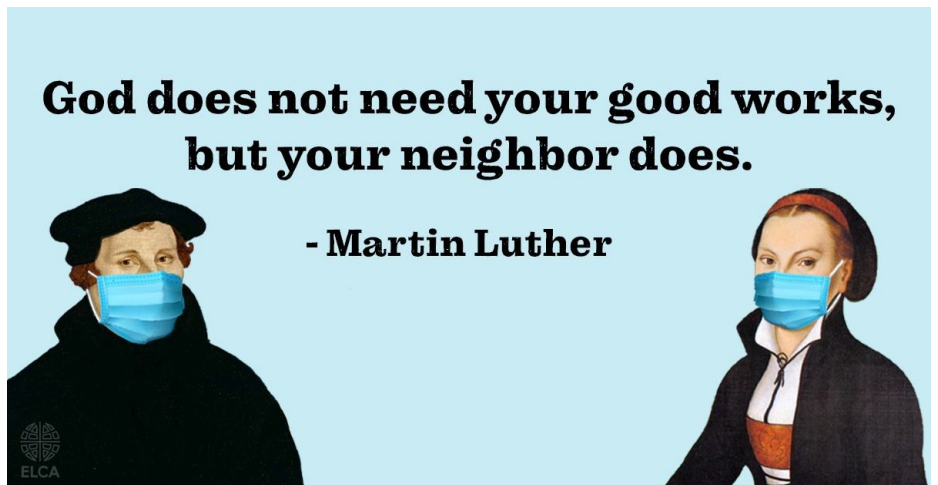
	Monthly		Year-to-Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Income:				
Envelope Giving	\$ 32,223	\$ 25,470	\$ 257,789	\$ 221,914
Other Income	3,987	2,870	31,895	37,147
Total Income	\$ 36,210	\$ 28,340	\$ 289,684	\$ 259,061
Expenses	\$ 37,235	\$ 31,505	\$ 297,882	\$ 264,157
Income (Deficit)	\$ (1,025)	\$ (3,165)	\$ (8,198)	\$ (5,097)

Note: This report does not include the funds from the Paycheck Protection Loan received in May.



A hedgehog climbed a tree
 A better view to see
 A hedgehog up a tree
 'Twas a sight to behold
 Sought to know why branches
 Had thorns just like him
 As coiled on a branch
 Unseen what tree has such
 Thorns why a hedgehog tree
 Of course of course closely
 Look when walking a path
 Maybe you'll see hedgehogs among
 The branches of a hawthorn tree

Margaret Walker



October 2020

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion 11:30am 9th grade Confirmation 1pm Sunday school backpack stuffing	28 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	29 10:30am WELCA 7pm Meet Pastor Wayne	30 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7pm Sunday Morning Book Club 7pm Meet Pastor Wayne	1 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 6:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells	2	3 4pm Meet Pastor Wayne 5pm Evening Light
4 9am Christian Education 9am Meet Pastor Wayne 10:15am Holy Communion 11:30am 9th grade Confirmation	5 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry	6 10:15am Staff 7pm Parent Grief Support Group 7:30pm Worship & Music	7 3pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7pm Christian Education 7pm Sunday Morning Book Club 8pm Adult Choir Meeting	8 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 6:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells	9	10 4pm Meet Pastor Wayne 5pm Evening Light
11 9am Christian Education 9am Meet Pastor Wayne 10:15am Holy Communion 11:30am 9th grade Confirmation	12 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Church Council	13 7pm Parent Grief Support Group	14 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7pm Sunday Morning Book Club	15 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 6:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells 8:15pm Naranon Support	16 St. Peter's lunch	17 5pm Evening Light
18 Circle deadline 9am Christian Education 9am Electronics 10:15am Holy Communion 11:30am 9th grade Confirmation 11:30am First Bible 1pm Sunday School Stewardship Activity	19 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Stephen Ministry 7pm Welcoming Team	20 7pm Parent Grief Support Group	21 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7pm Sunday Morning Book Club 8pm Adult Choir Meeting	22 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 6:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells	23 4pm Time Bank Pasta Party prep	24 5pm Evening Light 5pm Time Bank Pasta Party (TO-GO only)
25 Reformation Sunday- Trunk or Treat 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion 11:30am 9th grade Confirmation 11:30am First Bible	26 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	27 10:30am WELCA 5:30pm Stewardship 7pm Parent Grief Support Group	28 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7pm Sunday Morning Book Club	29 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 6:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells	30	31 5pm Evening Light
1 All Saints Sunday 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion 11:30am 9th grade Confirmation 11:30am First Bible	2 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry	3 10:15am Staff 12:30pm PACA 4:30pm PACS Fundraising Committee 7:30pm Worship & Music	4 3pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7pm Christian Education 7pm Sunday Morning Book Club	5 5:30pm Women's AA/Alanon 6:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells	6	7 5pm Evening Light- First Bibles received

October 2020 – Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Brett Emery's birthday Sophia Seidel's birthday	28 Heather Yonosh's birthday Nicholas VanDerveer's birthday Peter and Diane Sitkowski's anniversary	29 Allyssa Andrews's birthday Courtney Morgan's birthday Julie Andrews's birthday Kent and Jennifer Brown's anniversary Megan Tribuno's birthday	30 Brian and Amy Becker's anniversary	1	2 Isaac Henderson's birthday Jim Taylor's birthday	3
4 Rhett and Margit Grejdus's anniversary	5	6 Karen Warren's birthday Sam Fryer's birthday	7 Gabrielle Perrotto's birthday Jennifer Rutherford's birthday	8 Jonathan and Kate Hicks's anniversary	9 Christopher and Mary Scavello's anniversary Simon DiGioia's birthday	10 Beth Kramer's birthday Courtney Wilkinson's birthday Kelly LeMarbe's birthday Larry and Kim Fetters's anniversary Robbie McMahon's birthday
11 Nicole Brown's birthday Peg Groenig's birthday Stephen and Cindy Riley's anniversary Wynne Salvas's birthday	12 Brian Schanzenbach's birthday Shari Bradley's birthday Stephen and Jen Drewes's anniversary William and Barbara Sell's anniversary	13 Allison Kramer's birthday Donald and Shirley Platzer's anniversary Joe Muller's birthday Joey Gombarick's birthday John Freehafer's birthday Nadine Hilvick's birthday Ron and Rebecca Stevens's anniversary	14 Glynys LaBoon's birthday Jim and Claudine Niness's anniversary Kristin and Lisa McGregor's anniversary Lyndsey Williams's birthday	15 Gail Doebling's birthday Simon Khan's birthday Stephen and Ashleigh Melton's anniversary	16 Greg Sandherr's birthday Keith Kenyon's birthday Nicholas Stotler's birthday Zach Pekofsky's birthday	17 Greg Krueger's birthday Mark Buckwalter's birthday Sam Ritchie's birthday
18	19 Sarah Smith's birthday	20 Isaac Leong's birthday	21 Ainsley Lucas's birthday Kal Saeger's birthday Kyle Oszeyczik's birthday	22 Amelia Hicks's birthday George Wilkinson's birthday	23 Nicholas DeWolf's birthday William Sell's birthday	24 A. Lee Dalasio's birthday Lisa McGregor's birthday
25 Melissa Rutherford's birthday Ron Williams and Venus Hadeed's anniversary TJ Babinchak's birthday	26 Mark Gerner's birthday Richard Ash's birthday	27 Iain Riley's birthday Lizzy Strunk's birthday Paul and Mary Miller's anniversary	28 Dale Herbranson's birthday Harper Themens's birthday Mike and Maryanne Mara's anniversary	29 Elisabeth Stevens's birthday	30 Gracie Themens's birthday Miranda McMahon's birthday Noah Deichmann's birthday	31 Alexandra Perrotto's birthday Edwin Walters's birthday Terri McDonnell's birthday
1 Charles and Donna Soutl's anniversary Lisa Wimble's birthday	2 Iain and Bridget Riley's anniversary	3	4 Jim Steiner's birthday Tom and Lindsey Snyder's anniversary	5 Rachel Possinger's birthday	6 Katherine Yonosh's birthday Laurie Griggs-Williams's birthday Mildred Wilson's birthday Nicholas Castellano and Kelly LeMarbe's anniversary Patrick DesMarais's birthday Richard and Leilani Ash's anniversary Sarah Yonosh's birthday	7

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
August 10, 2020**

Attendees:							
Pastor Krommes	P	Mitch Reading	P	Dale Herbranson	P	Stephen Drewes	E
Kelly Gallagher	P	Janet Gerner	P	Brian Greenwald	P	Sandra Zimmermann	P
Pam Naylor	P	Bobbi Riley	P	Don Titus	P	Donna Searchfield	P
Dick Kunsch	P						
Guests:							
Sonya Sowards	P	Tom Snyder	P	Jen Wentworth	P		

The Zoom meeting was called to order at 7:02 pm by Mitch Reading.

Pastor Krommes prayed in honor of the 40th anniversary of her ordination August 10, 1980. She referenced text from 2 Isaiah 40, which was read at her ordination. The text offers comfort to God's People; when we are doing what God wants us to do, we will not get weary. Amen.

Meeting minutes from the July 13, 2020 meeting were reviewed.

Motion by Don Titus , Second by Dale Herbranson to accept the minutes; Motion passed.

Staff Reports

- Pastor's Report – accepted as written. Pastor Krommes left the Zoom meeting after reviewing her report.
- T. Snyder's Report – accepted as written.
- J. Quinn's Report - accepted as written.
- J. Wentworth's Report – accepted as written.

Motion by Sandra Zimmermann , Second by Dick Kunsch to accept the staff reports; Motion passed.

Finance Committee did not meet since the last council meeting. Don Titus credited Shirley Platzer and Kevin Gallagher for doing the 7-month reports for Income & Expenses. Mitch also recognized Shirley Platzer and Jack Ertell for their responsiveness in reviewing and preparing the financial package needed for contract discussions with the interim pastor.

- Discussion on offering "lock up" now that we have in-person worship. Council approved leaving the new Offering Box in the narthex after the Saturday Evening Light service and then having any council person attending to take the Offering Box and lock the box in the safe after the Sunday Worship service. Dale Herbranson will notify Jack Ertell of this procedure.

Motion by Dale Herbranson, Second by Donna Searchfield to accept the Finance Committee Report; Motion passed.

Council reviewed the following Committee Reports:

- Stewardship Committee – did not meet
- Electronics Committee – did not meet
- Christian Education and Youth and Family Committee from August 5, 2020. Accepted as written.
 - Future in-person activities will need to have participants sign a liability statement from the Synod medical release form.
 - The committee will purchase two, non-contact thermometers. Jen Wentworth will decide on best/safe storage location for them.
 - Sunday School will commence virtually per the normal fall schedule.

- Results of the Sunday School Survey Monkey attached by the Council Secretary.
- Property Committee from August 3, 2020. Accepted as written.
 - **Property made an email motion August 1, 2020, to remove the four room dividers in Kley Hall. Council discussed and approved the removal.**
 - Property has arranged a meeting between the architect firm, who did our building Property Assessment, and the Electronics Committee to discuss the impact to the sanctuary regarding live streaming.
- Worship and Music Committee from August 4, 2020. Accepted as written.
 - Per previous council action, the Fall Sunday School and Worship schedule will commence the first weekend after Labor Day – September 12/13, 2020.
- Welcome Team Committee from August 3, 2020. Accepted as written.
- Social Ministry Committee – did not meet
- Fellowship Committee – did not meet
- Columbarium Committee from August 6, 2020. Accepted as written. See new business for council action.
- Executive Committee – did not meet

Motion by Donna Searchfield , Second by Sandra Zimmermann to accept committee reports; Motion passed.

Old Business

- Live Streaming:
 - Council review the report from the live stream subcommittee formed to address the concerns raised at the July council meeting.
 - ELCA national and SEPA Synod suggestions will be followed regarding privacy and disclosure matters. St. John's will create public notifications and have ground rules in place as part of the live stream logistics.
 - **Mitch Reading called for a vote on the tabled July 13, 2020 motion to move forward towards live streaming worship. Motion passed.**
 - **Motion by Don Titus, Second by Sandra Zimmermann to finance the Video Streaming System: 50% from the Undesignated Bequests Fund and 50% from the Community Outreach Fund. Motion Passed.**
- Interim Pastor:
 - **Bobbi Riley made an email motion July 30, 2020, seconded by Don Titus, to extend an interim pastor contract offer to Rev Wayne Shelor per the St. John's Interim Pastor Agreement. Motion passed.**
 - Pastor Shelor accepted our offer. The Interim Pastor Agreement has been executed.
 - Pastor Shelor will begin September 1, 2020. The electronics committee has given Pastor Shelor the St. John's email address of pastorwayne@stjohnphoenixville.org.
 - St. John's staff will help acclimate Pastor Shelor as necessary.
- Pastor Krommes retirement:
 - In the interest of safety, the Council Executive committee made a recommendation to not serve food at the retirement celebration. The food caterer's deposit was non-refundable.
 - The celebration will be joyous with numerous speakers and special gifts.

- Motion by Dick Kunsch, second by Sandra Zimmermann to donate \$5,000.00 to Tanzania Ministries in Pastor Krommes' honor. Pastor Krommes will be asked to help decide where those funds should go. Motion passed.
 - Motion by Dale Herbranson, second by Donna Searchfield to take the \$5,000.00 from the Outreach fund. Motion passed.
- Flooring Update:
 - The Nursery Flooring is on order. A September installation is anticipated. See the Property Minutes for additional flooring details.
 - **Mitch called for an e-mail approval to the July 9, 2020 Property e-mail motion to go with the nursery floor quotation from Ches-Mont Carpet One at \$7,407.62. Material costs of \$4,755.99 from Fund 2 Capital Improvement and installation cost of \$2,651.63 from the Property budget. E-mail motion approval July 17, 2020.**
- Re-opening:
 - Procedures are in place and being followed as we worship and gather in-person. Any state, local and insurance guidelines will be address if and as they change.
 - Once the new nursery floor is installed, the room will be set back up with a major filter done to toy contents. Arlene Hudak is prepared to resume her duties should the opportunity arise.

New Business

- Job Descriptions:
 - Job descriptions for the Director of Music, Organist and Lead Pastor have been reviewed/revised by the St. John's HR group.
 - The Director of Music and Organist job descriptions had recent changes, so they will need to be re-approved. Approval of the Lead Pastor job description is deferred at this time.
 - **Motion by Sandra Zimmermann, second by Dick Kunsch to adopt the new staff job descriptions for the Director of Music and Organist, as put forth by the HR Group. Motion passed with one abstention.**
- Columbarium Price Increase:
 - **The Columbarium Committee made a motion to increase niche pricing effective September 1, 2020: Member Pre-Need - \$3,000.00; Member at time of Need - \$3,250.00; Non-Member Pre-Need - \$3,250.00; Non-Member at time of Need - \$3,500.00. Council discussed and approved the Niche Price Increase.**
 - Current pricing will be extended through October 1, 2020 for members only.

Motion by Dick Kunsch , Second by Donna Searchfield to adjourn; Motion passed.

The meeting ended at 8:55 pm with the Lord's Prayer. The next meeting will be September 14, 2020 at 7:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Bobbi Riley



Meet Pastor Wayne!

Pastor Wayne will be available to meet groups in the Fireside Room on October 3rd, 4th, 10th and 11th for the hour preceding worship. Groups are limited to 8 persons. He will also be available via Zoom on Tuesday, September 29th and Wednesday, September 30th at 7:00 p.m. The Zoom links will be sent to all members on September 28th. Please plan to join one of these meetings and get to know Pastor Wayne!





League of Women Voters of Chester County
 PO Box 62, Exton, PA 19341 610-644-5960
www.lwvccpa.org

VOTING INFORMATION FOR PA VOTERS

Go to www.votespa.com

(This site has translate button top right corner)

- REGISTER TO VOTE AND/OR MAKE ANY CHANGES
 - CHECK YOUR REGISTRATION
 - FIND YOUR POLLING PLACE
 - MAIL-IN BALLOT APPLICATION
 - TRACK STATUS OF MAIL-IN BALLOT
 - ACCESS MORE VOTING INFORMATION



League of Women Voters of Chester County
 PO Box 62, Exton, PA 19341 610-644-5960
www.lwvccpa.org

Personalized Voting Information

www.vote411.org

Chester County Voter Services

www.chesco.org/election

610-344-6410

Find My PA Legislator

www.legis.state.pa.us

YOUR VOTE IS YOUR VOICE. MAKE IT COUNT !

Live Generously

The mission and ministry of St. John's was greatly enhanced through Thrivent Action Teams Grants in 2019. Thrivent members who are also members of St. John's applied for and received 20 grants for a total of \$5,000! If you are a member of Thrivent, you are eligible to apply for two Action Team Grants each year. Please contact your Thrivent representative if you would like to apply for an Action Team Grant in the coming year. You can learn more about Thrivent at www.thrivent.com.



Give with your whole heart.

Did you know? Many employers offer the ability to have your donations deducted from your paycheck and then forward those donations on to us. Some, such as Vanguard, offer a generous match so that your donation has the potential of a nice increase. Contact your Human Resources Department to see if this is a possibility for you.

Donating Stock to St. John's

One of the many ways to financially support St. John's is through the donation of stock. Donating appreciated stock will benefit the church and provide a potential tax benefit to the donor. For stock that has been held for more than a year and has appreciated in value, one can take a charitable deduction based on the stock's fair market value on the day of donation. Additionally, making such a donation will avoid capital gains taxes on the increased value of the stock.

If interested in donating stock to St. John's, contact our Church Treasurer, Shirley Platzer, at (484) 938-7763.

Amazon Smile

Did you know that Amazon will donate to St. John's on your behalf? Simply log-in to Amazon using <https://smile.amazon.com> and choose St. John's from the list of charities you support (make sure you choose St. Johns (no apostrophe) Lutheran Church in Phoenixville). Amazon will send 0.5% of your purchase to St. John's every time you shop eligible items!

St. John's Lutheran Church
355 St. John's Circle
Phoenixville, PA 19460
(610) 933-3947

www.stjohnluthphoenixville.org
E-mail: office@stjohnphoenixville.org

CHURCH STAFF

Interim Lead Pastor:

The Rev. Wayne R. Shelor

Pastoral Associate:

The Rev. Thomas Kochenderfer, Jr.

Director of Music:

F. Thomas Snyder III

Organist & Pianist:

John A. Quinn III

Director of Children,

Youth & Family Ministries:

Jennifer A. Wentworth

Parish Administrator:

Sonya K. Sowards

Sexton:

Mark Yanchek, Jr.

Nursery Coordinator:

Arlene Hudak

CHURCH COUNCIL

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Mitch Reading

Vice President:

Dale Herbranson

Secretary:

Bobbi Riley

Treasurer:

Shirley Platzter

Assistant Treasurer:

Rose Gatlos

Financial Recording Secretary:

Mary Heiser

Fund 3 Secretary:

Kevin Gallagher

Executive Committee:

Dick Kunsch

Stephen Drewes

Bobbi Riley

Other Members of Church Council:

Sandra Zimmermann

Brian Greenwald

Donna Searchfield

Kelly Gallagher

Janet Gerner

Don Titus

Pam Naylor

Stephen Ministry Leaders:

Linda Landis — (610) 933-9544

Lee Dalasio — (610) 454-9884

COMMITTEES

Christian Education:

Mark Gerner & Teresa Olsen, Co-Chairs

Kelly Gallagher & Sandra Zimmermann

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Sandra Zimmermann, Council Rep.

Electronics:

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Dale Herbranson, Council Rep.

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Dale Herbranson, Chair

Fellowship:

Sandra Zimmermann, Chair

Pam Naylor, Council Rep.

Finance:

Jack Ertell, Chair

Don Titus & Stephen Drewes

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Rick Kramer, Chair

Bobbi Riley, Council Rep.

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Debbe Welsh, Chair

Janet Gerner, Council Rep.

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Mike Kahl, Chair

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Jean Herbranson, Chair

Brian Greenwald, Council Rep.

Office Assistants:

June Henzie

Kay Mann

Joan Carl

Pat Renninger

The Circle Editor:

Sonya K. Sowards



Change in Contact Information

Dolly Bucher

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1700 Pine Street

Norristown, PA 19401

Pastoral Acts

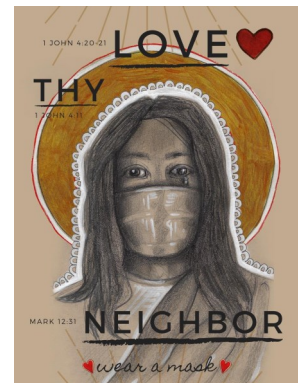
Funeral

Sandra G. Sheplock

August 21, 2020

We continue to follow the guidelines issued by the Governor of Pennsylvania. Worship continues to be available on our YouTube channel for those who do not feel comfortable returning to in-person worship. Materials for at-home worship are being sent to parishioners without computer access on request.

Please wear a mask when interacting with others in the building. Thank you for keeping us all healthy!



Hear our prayer
Lord for all animals
May they be well fed
Well treated and happy
Protect them from hunger
And fear and suffering
And we pray protect
Especially the little cat
Who is the companion of our
Home safe
Keep her safe as she
Goes around and bring her
Back to comfort us
An old Russian prayer

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
355 St. John's Circle
Phoenixville, PA 19460-2582



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Phoenixville, PA 19460-2582
(610) 933-3947
www.stjohnluthphoenixville.org
E-mail: office@stjohnphoenixville.org
office hours 9-3 M,T,Th & 9-12 W,F (*barring exceptions*)
please call for appointments with staff members
A Caring, Sharing, Growing Congregation of the ELCA
Participating in Stephen Ministry

Worship Schedule

Saturdays

5 p.m. Evening Light with Holy Communion

Sundays

10:15 a.m. Holy Communion
(fall, winter and spring)

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion
(Memorial Day through Labor Day)

THE CIRCLE

