The Circle

November 2021



Pastor Wayne ... For Your Consideration

As we flip the calendar to November our minds often jump immediately to Thanksgiving Day. It can be a wonderful time of family, remembering, and giving thanks. As the people of God, we have so very much for which to be thankful, each and every day. I encourage you to take a few moments (right now) to pause and reflect upon the ways in which you are blessed. Consider who has contributed to this blessedness and find a way during the month of November to express your gratitude to those who make your life full.

We of St. John's are richly blessed. God has gathered us together here so that we might be a blessing to others in this little corner of God's grand creation. So, I also want you to consider how you might be a blessing to persons who are in great need, who may never know your name, or ever be able to thank you.

One way might be through the efforts of Orion Communities who "offer hope for individuals and families experiencing hardship due to poverty; disability or illness by building bridges that lead to selfreliance." On Sunday, November 14th at 9:00 a.m. in Kley Hall, as part of our SECOND SUNDAY learning opportunities, Mrs. Kris Keller, Executive Director of Orion Communities will be with us to describe their work and ways in which we might elevate our support of their efforts. I encourage you to come learn what new opportunities for service might be available for you right here in the Phoenixville area.

Gratefully <><

Pastor Wayne

All Saints Day

On All Saints' Sunday, November 7th, a bagpiper will begin the worship service in the columbarium where we will remember the saints who have gone before us. He will then lead us into worship in the sanctuary. Copper tags will be available on Saturday and Sun-



day for those who wish to write names of loved ones as a personal remembrance. The tags will later be hung in the columbarium trees. Names of loved ones deceased since November 1, 2020 will be in the bulletin–please send names to Sonya Sowards by Monday, November 1^{st} .

Inside this issue:

From the Pastor / All Saints Day / Christ the King	1
From the Director of CY&F / ASP / Pumpkin Chuckin'	2
PCO / WELCA / Advent & Christ- mas Decorating	3
Call Committee / Pasta Party / Mobile App	4
Time & Talent Needed / Financial Report / G.I.F.T. / Flowers, Bulle- tins, Vigil Candle / Amazon	5
Poetry	5, 6,10
November Staffing / Stephen Ministry / Stream Team / Save Your Cans	6
Council Minutes	7-8
PACS	8
Calendars	9-10
Staff List / Donation Options /	cover

Christ the King

Christ the King is the last Sunday after Pentecost and celebrates the kingship of Christ. This year, on November 20th and 21st, we will observe this major church festival with all the colors used throughout the church year. Which parament color do you like best?

From the Director of Children, Youth & Family Ministries

Happy November!

The 7th and 8th grade confirmands have spent the last few weeks focusing on stewardship. They discussed being good stewards of the planet, each other, and this congregation of St. John's. We've also talked about the fact that stewardship isn't just about money. It's also giving one's time or talents. This is a fitting discussion as we head into the season of giving. I encourage you as a family to talk about each other's talents and how they can be used to help the planet, each other, and the church. You might even find yourself surprised at what your child considers their talent.

The St. John's youth have been in full stewardship mode over the past month. The offering from September went to buying a piglet from ELCA good gifts. October's offering went to buying toothpaste, brushes, and floss to support our neighbors in need. October was Dental Hygiene Awareness Month. On October 19th, the children's Sunday school put together 108 school kits to send overseas through Lutheran World Relief. The kits made last year recently arrived in the Dominican Republic. A huge thank you to those who donated school supplies and money to help us support children's education. A kit of just a few school supplies may not seem like much, but in rural areas or poor neighborhoods a kit like this is gold. It's a chance to record notes and do assignments, a chance for an education and a better life.

On October 31st, the youth voted on the next offering cause for the month of November. Take a look at the Kley Hall bulletin board to see what they picked. There are plenty of stewardship opportunities at St. John's and within the larger community. If you would like to get involved just ask a church staff member, a council representative, or a committee chair, we can all put you in touch with a person or organization that needs support.

God Bless and Happy Thanksgiving!

Jen Wentworth

Appalachia Service Project *

Do you have a passion for serving others? Do you want to experience some of the most rewarding service hours where no experience is necessary? Consider joining the 2022 ASP Mission team as they help make homes in the Appalachian region warmer, safer and drier for a week-long service trip in the summer. Visit <u>www.asphome.org</u> to read more about it.

If you or your child (9th grade in 2022 and above) are interested, please reach out to Jennifer Wentworth, Director of Children, Youth and Family Ministry or our ASP Leader Jodi O'Neill (<u>oneillsinvf@comcast.net</u>).



Attention all 6th, 7th, and 8th graders

We are having a **Pumpkin Chuckin' Fest** on Saturday, November 13th from 2-4 p.m. here at St. John's. You and one friend can join us to play Capture the Pumpkin, pumpkin soccer, and take part in a pumpkin chunkin' contest. Dress to get messy and have some fun. We will have pumpkins here at church, but feel free to bring along your leftover Halloween pumpkins to chuck. RSVP by Halloween to Miss Jen at went-worthj@stjohnphoenixville.org.

"Musical Shorts"



Providence Chamber Orchestra

Strings

At 4:00 p.m., Sunday, November 21st, the strings of our resident ensemble, The Providence Chamber Orchestra, will present a program of delightful short works for string orchestra. Composers Henry Purcell, Ralph Vaughan Williams, Felix Mendelssohn, and Alexandr Glazunov are among those included on the program. Director of Music Tom Snyder directs the group.

Founded in 1990, "the purpose and mission of the PCO is to bring together talented, amateur musicians who share a common passion for playing classical music, and who aspire to improve musicianship through challenging and expanding repertoire."

There is no admission charge but a freewill offering will be received. Masks are required of audience members.



We continue to collect toiletries, toothbrushes, toothpaste, dental floss, combs, rolls of lifesavers, bookmarks, small tablets, emery boards, chapstick, *etc*.

Because of ongoing COVID-19 issues we will purchase cookies from Foresta's.

Monetary donations would be very helpful to offset this expense.

All items can be placed in the WELCA collection box in the narthex.

Last day for donations will be November 30th.

A NEW fundraiser for WELCA is the sale of RADA Cutlery. This cutlery is made in the U.S.A. Soups, dips, and marinades are also available. These products make marvelous gifts. Catalogs and order forms are available in the narthex.

WELCA will also collect items for Silver Springs Martin Luther School Christmas gifts for the children. These items should also be placed in the WELCA box. Requested items include: LEGO sets, playing cards and card games (UNO and Phase 10 are favorites), new books for children and teens, small Bluetooth speakers, socks for boys and girls (adult sizes 6-11), crossbody bags, wallets, wristlets, and fanny packs, hairbrushes and combs, gel pen sets, crayons, markers, colored pencils, sketch books and journals (non spiral), coloring books, nail polish, press on nails, lip gloss, lip balm, and any kind of balls.

Advent and Christmas

Advent begins the weekend of November 27th and 28th as we prepare ourselves and the church for Christmas. See the manger fill up each week. Following the worship service on Sunday, December 19th, we will "Hang the Greens" to decorate the sanctuary for Christmas. Help is needed to put up a tree, hang garland, install the iron candle sticks on the pews, and assorted other tasks. Mark your calendars now and plan to help. Undecorating is planned for January 2nd after the service.



Call Committee

The Congregation Council at its meeting earlier this week appointed the following members to serve as our Call Committee: Shelley Saeger, Chair; Kevin Gallagher; Linda Landis; Rich Latella; and Mitch Reading.

Our Call Committee will meet with the Dean of the Chester Conference who is our contact for this process. The Director of Mobility, the Bishop and the Deans will then determine which pastoral candidates our committee will be given to review. Please understand this process is very confidential to protect the pastoral relationship a pastoral candidate has with their present place of call. The members of our Call Committee will share no information about the persons they are reviewing.



Shelley Saeger, the Chair of the Call Committee will be sharing regular process reports with you in the *Circle*, the weekly email, or in special communications. If you have any questions you are encouraged to contact her at <u>shellsaeger@hotmail.com</u> or (262) 424-4939.

Please keep Shelley, Kevin, Linda, Rich, and Mitch in your regular prayers as they undertake this most holy work on our behalf.



Italian Pasta Party 2021!

Phoenixville Area Time Bank is celebrating autumn with our 8th annual Italian Pasta Party on Saturday, November 6th. 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 November 6th from St John's, 5-7 p.m. Reservations are required; all dinners must be ordered online and prepaid. All dinners come with a chance to win a raffle basket. Tickets must be purchased by 5 p.m. on November 4th. 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: <u>https://www.patimebank.org/pasta-party-2021</u> Questions? Call (610) 608-9281 or email <u>pa.timedollar@gmail.com</u>

New Mobile App for Giving to St. John's!

We're excited to announce St. John's has upgraded our mobile app! Vanco, our eGiving provider, has launched an updated mobile app called Vanco Mobile (to replace GivePlus Mobile, which has been retired as of September 30th). You can download the Vanco Mobile app for free from the App Store or Google Play. From there, you can make a one-time donation or set up recurring giving right through the app. Just select your fund and amount, enter a payment method and complete the donation. If you have questions or need assistance with our new mobile app, please contact Dale Herbranson at dale.herbranson@outlook.com.





There are so many ways to use the gifts God has given you at St. John's! Especially now that we're getting back together, we need:

- ushers
- communion assistants/lectors
- assisting ministers
- live stream staff ("Stream Team")
- Faith Formation Committee members
- choir members
- drivers to bring shut-ins to worship
- **Stephen Ministers**

Please let Sonya Sowards know how you would like to use your time and talent at St. John's, and she will put you in touch with the appropriate leader. Ministry group leader names can also be found on the last page of this newsletter.

Summary Financial Report as of September 30, 2021

		Mor	thly	Year-to-Date			
	E	Budget		Actual	Budget	Actual	
Income: Envelope Giving	\$	28,099	\$	24,003	\$252,888	\$233,698	
Other Income		4,661		5,089	41,951	40,173	
Total Income	\$	32,760	\$	29,092	\$294,839	\$273,871	
Expenses	\$	35,524	\$	32,228	\$319,716	\$301,149	
Income (Deficit)	\$	(2,764)	\$	(3,136)	\$ (24,877)	\$ (27,278)	
Dear Lord help Our Christian li With God and r A share of our	Use this QR code to do- nate to the						

Margaret Walker

A share of our time and talents too A sharing everything we do An act of kindness a helpful hand To the poor and needy Throughout the Land Lord help us to share

Amen.

ministries of St. John's.



G.I.F.T.—Growing in Faith Together

St. John's has been able to continue its ministry during 2021 here in the Phoenixville area due to your remarkable resourcefulness and because you honored the commitments you made last year for regular support of the financial needs of this ministry. As we further emerge from the pandemic, and anticipate the arrival of a new pastor, please share with us what you anticipate your 2022 G.I.F.T - "Growing in Faith Together" commitment will be. We very much want to have every household respond, even if it is as little as \$1.00. You may remember Jesus had something to say about that as he watched the widow drop in her seemingly small gift. To let us know what your 2022 commitment will be, please complete a pledge card found in the narthex and return it to Sonya Sowards in the envelope provided. Thank you for your partnership in God's work here in this place!



Sponsor Flowers, Bulletins & Vigil Candle

Members and friends are invited to sponsor the vigil candle in memory of or in honor of loved ones. The cost is \$12 per month. You are also invited to offset the cost of the weekly **bulletins**. That cost is \$20 per week. Our florist supplies *flowers* (visible on our livestream as well as in-person services) at \$25 per vase for a total of \$50 for two. Contact Sonya Sowards for available months and dates and to specify the occasion, or you can use the sign-up sheets on the hallway bulletin board. Thank you!

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!

People of God Involved in God's Work November Sunday Staffing

Altar Guild

- 7 Nancy Cressman & Janet Ertell14 Donna Anderson & Cathy Garrett
- 21 Jean Herbranson
- 28 Betty Hans & Jean Herbranson

Assisting Ministers

- 7 Nancy Cressman
- 14 Tom Snyder
- 21 Erin Fazzari
- 28 Ron Stevens

Communion Assistants/Lectors

- 7 Mitch Reading
- 14 Bill/Sue Starling
- 21 Walt Deichmann
- 28 Lynn Titus

Counters

- 7 Jack & Janet Ertell, Donna Anderson
- 14 Heather Yonosh, Jeanne Schanzenbach
- 21 Mary Heiser, Mike & Cathy Kahl
- 28 Stephen & Jen Drewes

Stream Team

- 7 Josh Romano, Dale Herbranson
- 14 Aimee Hillegas, Dale Herbranson
- 21 Josh Romano, Dale Herbranson
- 28 Aimee Hillegas, Dale Herbranson

<u>Ushers</u>

- 7 Dick Kunsch & Donna Anderson
- 14 Cathy & Mike Kahl
- 21 John Rawlins & Zach Brown
- 28 Barry Church & LuAnne Bindschusz



As part of continuing education St. John's Stephen Ministers attended a threesession train-

ing titled: Becoming a Healthy Griever for LIFE. Stephen Ministries is offering these Bridge Leaders Training Courses (BLTC) to fully equip laypeople to serve as Stephen Leaders. The BLTC provides Stephen Leaders with the knowledge, skills, and resources they need to successfully implement the Stephen Ministry System. BLTC is a live, interactive training experience that fully equips and inspires participants to serve as Stephen Leaders. The BLTC is now delivered over Zoom to cohorts of 20 people from across the United States. Canada and around the world. It consists of 10 sessions of 2^{1/2} hours each, held twice weekly over five weeks or once weekly over ten weeks. Options include morning, afternoon, or evening cohorts. In order to grow our leadership team, we are hoping to train several additional people. Please prayerfully consider participating in a Bridge Leaders Training Course. For further information contact Linda Landis.



Be Part of the Stream Team

Streaming continues to spread the Word of Christ to our YouTube followers every Sunday morning. The team continues to need additional volunteers. Please contact Dale Herbranson by email at <u>dale.herbranson@outlook.com</u>. Other opportunities to record and upload videos are available for St. John's groups. Just contact Dale to discuss.



Save Your Cans

The St. John's youth are collecting aluminum beverage cans as a fundraiser to help with the costs of our mission trips. Please bag your cans and drop them off in Kley Hall. Thank you!!

Beside a garden wall Resting in peace A father mother son Rest in the peace of the Trinity Where a garden grew green grass Now grows father mother son rest In the peace of the Trinity Within white walls come sounds Of music little white church once You stood in pastures green where Cattle grazed where foxes roamed And rabbits played flowers bloomed A delight to the eye houses now bloom Where once green pastures beckon Children's voices raised in happy Laughter where now is heard traffic's Roar yet happy are those who pray Within thy white walls

Margaret Walker

St. John's Lutheran Church

Council Meeting Minutes

September 13, 2021

Attendees:							1
Pastor Shelor	P	Mitch Reading	P	Dale Herbranson	Ρ	Stephen Drewes	P
Kelly Gailagher	P	Janet Gerner	A	Sue Starling	Р	Sandra Zimmermann	P
Aimee Hillegas	P	Bobbi Riley	P	Don Titus	P		
Dick Kunsch	P						
Guests:							
Sonya Sowards	P	Tom Snyder	P	Jen Wentworth	Р		

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Stephen Drewes. Mitch Reading led an opening prayer.

Comments from Pastor Wayne and MSP Review:

- Pastor asked for anonymous contribution of names to serve on the Call Committee. Each member submitted 2-3 names.
- Pastor will use this list and work with Stephen and Mitch to determine optimal committee.
- MSP Pastor distributed the missing text (within the parentheses) for review. Dick Kunsch made a motion to accept the MSP as written, motion seconded by Mitch Reading subject to grammar changes. Motion carried.
- Next steps: gather all required data (i.e. financial review) to submit to the Synod along with the MSP, generally will have candidates within six weeks. The Synod will work with the chair of the Call Committee, so we will need to form the committee quickly.
- Pastor Position Description was also distributed and discussed. Motion made by Sandy Zimmerman to accept the description; Mitch Reading seconded. Motion carried – Don Titus opposed, and Bobbi abstained.

Meeting minutes from the August 9, 2021 meetings were reviewed.

Motion by Don, Second by Mitch to accept the minutes for August 9, 2021; Motion carried – Bobbi abstained as she was absent from meeting.

Staff Reports

Motion by Dick, Second by Dale to accept the August staff reports; Motion passed, Bobbi abstained.

Finance Committee

- · Finance Committee Reports for August 2021 were submitted.
- Some concern about our 2021 financial performance, and the purchase of heating oil with the price rising rapidly.

Motion by Don, Second by Sandy to accept the Finance Reports; Motion passed.

Council reviewed the following Committee Reports:

- Electronics Committee from August 26, 2021 accepted as written
- Faith Formation from September 1, 2021 accepted as written
 - Committee made the motion to offer communion to children beginning in third grade. Motion passed by Council.
- Property Committee from September, 2021 accepted as written
 - Bobbi made a motion to allow a garden and picnic table project as a Girl Scout Bronze Award project. An approval allows them to meet with Lynn and ensure the plan aligns

with other landscaping/maintenance plan. Stephen seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- Worship and Music Committee from August 3, 2021 accepted as written
- Social Ministry Committee no report
- Fellowship Committee no report
- Columbarium Committee did not meet
- Executive Committee did not meet
- Stewardship Committee not functioning
- Welcome Team Committee not functioning

Motion by Dale, Second by Mitch to accept committee reports; Motion passed.

Old Business

- Restarting Coffee Hour
 - Very successful picnic, but also concern about Covid and removing masks for eating/drinking.
 - Concern about smaller number of committees, fewer participants puts the burden on a few, and we're starting earlier now.
 - Agreed to move decision to the future and take no action at this time; will re-address
 after the holidays. Future discussion needs to include format and structure.
- Reconciling in Christ
 - Sandy offered to recruit a Pastor who has gone through the process to come and speak for just 15 minutes or so (via Zoom) about the process and results.
- Age Change for Holy Communion Covered during committee report review
- Committee Structure Discussed issues of current committees; decided to continue to consider and discuss in multiple forums going forward – i.e. lunch meetings, future Council meetings.
- Tree Planting Could it somehow be incorporated into the Girl Scout project? Bobbi Riley
 agreed to ask Lynn Titus if she can make a recommendation as to the tree placement.

New Business

- Call Committee covered in Pastor teachings
- MSP covered in Pastor teachings
- Smoking anywhere on campus New Business agenda item for October

Stephen closed the meeting at 8:08 pm. Next regular meeting October 11, 2021.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Starling (substituting for Janet Gerner) Council Member at Large

Phantom Food Packs

The Phantom Food Pack program is currently seeking volunteers to assemble backpacks on Thursdays at 3 p.m. This program provides weekend food packs for PASD students living with food insecurity in kindergarten through 5th grade. The students are identified by the school counselors and their families are invited to participate in the program. The Food Packs ensure that our youngest students are receiving the proper nutrition throughout the weekend. If interested, please contact Mairi Dewey at <u>mairi.dewey@pacsphx.org.</u> Dear St. John's Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your September 2021 gift of groceries, paper products and toiletries to PACS. Since COVID-19 life has drastically changed. Your neighbors in need—and all of us at PACS—deeply appreciate your support which enables us to continue our mission of helping those facing food insecurity within our community. By reaching out to help, you truly are making a difference in their lives.

Warmest regards,

Mary Fuller Executive Director Phoenixville Area Community Services

November 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Reformation Sunday 9am Christian Education-Sunday school in Kley Hall for Reformation lesson 10:15am Holy Communion and confirmation	1 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry	2 9th & 10th grade at Feast Incarnate 10:15am Staff 5pm Girl Scouts #41766 7pm Parent Grief Support Group 7:30pm Worship & Music	3 3pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7pm Faith Formation Committee 8pm Adult Choir	4 5:30pm Cadette Girl Scouts #4514 6:30pm Kiwanis 6:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells	5 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	6 5pm Phoenixville Time Bank Spaghetti Dinner 5pm Evening Prayer (w/communion)
7 All Saints Sunday 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion w/baptism 2pm PCO Rehearsal	8 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Church Council 7pm Girl Scouts #4330	9 5:30pm Brownie/Junior Troop #42024 7pm Parent Grief Support Group	10 8:30pm Girl Scouts- Juniors 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 8pm Adult Choir	11 8:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells	12 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	13 2pm Pumpkin Chuckin' Fest 5pm Evening Prayer (w/communion)
14 9am Christian Education - Second Sunday Session w/Orion 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm PCO Rehearsal	15 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Stephen Ministry	16 5pm Girl Scouts #41766	17 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 8pm Adult Choir	18 Circle deadline 5:30pm Cadette Girl Scouts #4514 6:30pm Kiwanis 6:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells 8:15pm Naranon Support	19 St. Peter's lunch 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	20 5pm Evening Prayer (w/communion)
21 Christ the King 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion 4pm Strings of Providence Chamber Orchestra concert	22 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Girl Scouts #4330	23 5:30pm Brownie/Junior Troop #42024 7:30pm Fellowship Committee	24 8:30pm Girl Scouts- Juniors 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 8pm Adult Choir	25 7pm Naranon	26 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	27 5pm Evening Prayer (w/communion)
28 Advent begins 9am Christian Education-Advent 1 children's event in Kley Hall 10:15am Holy Communion	29 10:30am Covered Bridge Garden Club 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	30 10:30am WELCA	1 3pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon 7pm Bible Study 7pm Faith Formation Committee 8pm Adult Choir	2 5:30pm Cadette Girl Scouts #4514 6:30pm Kiwanis 6:45pm Children's Handbells 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells	3 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	4 9am DAR 5pm Evening Prayer (w/communion)

November 2021 Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
31 Alexandra Perrotto's birthday Edwin Walters's birthday Terri McDonnell's birthday	1 Charles and Donna Soult's anniversary Lisa Wimble's birthday	2 lain 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 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	8	9 Will Stotler's birthday	10	11 Katie Henderson's birthday Nils Aho's birthday	12 Andy and Katie Henderson's anniversary Jay Renninger's birthday	13 Rachel Zimmermann's birthday
14 Chris and Shelley Saeger's anniversary	15	16	17 Karen Romano's birthday	18 Tammy Plumley's birthday	19 Danielle Reading's birthday Jill Wolstenholme's birthday	20 Margit Grejdus's birthday
21 Bradley LaBoon's birthday Brett Gallagher's birthday John Marchegiano's birthday	22 Brandon Jones's birthday Emilio Lozada's birthday	23	24 Maddie Gadzicki's birthday Rick and Leslie Kem's anniversary Tom Johnson's birthday	25 Diane Sitkowski's birthday John and Nancy Perchalski's anniversary Mark Yanchek's birthday	26 Olivia Schumacher's birthday	27
28	29	30 Gabriella Geiger's birthday Gary Carl's birthday Mary Miller's birthday Nancy Renninger's birthday	1 Bill Ahola's birthday	2 Karen Cattafesta's birthday Pat Clark's birthday	3 Lu Anne Bindschusz's birthday	4 Don Titus's birthday

A cake has many meanings Joy of a newborn Couples starting a new life together Elders celebrate life Birthday cakes remind us of A past that leads us to a new year. Margaret Walker

Dear Friends at St. John's: I would like to say thank you to the person that delivered the birthday surprise to my house today. Sadly, I was not home from work when she came, but my husband made sure I received it when I got home. I enjoyed the cheerful card, and we enjoyed the lemon cake for our dessert. Thank you again! Gail Doebling

Dear St. John's:

Thank you for thinking of me on my birthday. The Bundt cake was delicious—and coming home from work to find it waiting for me was quite a surprise! God is good!

Rich Latella



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

www.stjohnluthphoenixville.org E-mail: <u>office@stjohnphoenixville.org</u>

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

President: Stephen Drewes Vice President: Mitch Reading Secretary: lanet Gerner Treasurer: Shirley Platzer **Assistant Treasurer:** Don Titus **Financial Recording Secretary:** Mary Heiser Fund 3 Secretary: Kevin Gallagher **Executive Committee:** Dale Herbranson Sandra Zimmermann

Other Members of Church Council: Bobbi Riley Dick Kunsch Kelly Gallagher Donna Searchfield Aimee Hillegas Sue Starling

> Stephen Ministry Leaders: Linda Landis — (610) 933-9544 Lee Dalasio — (610) 454-9884

COMMITTEES

Columbarium: Bill Starling, Chair Sandra Zimmermann, Council Rep.

Electronics: William Schoellkopf, Chair Dale Herbranson, Council Rep.

> **Executive:** Mitch Reading, Chair

Faith Formation: Mark Gerner, Chair Kelly Gallagher, Council Rep.

Fellowship: Sandra Zimmermann, Chair Sue Starling, Council Rep.

Finance: Jack Ertell, Chair Don Titus & Stephen Drewes Council Reps.

Property: Rick Kramer, Chair Bobbi Riley, Council Rep.

Social Ministry: Debbe Welsh, Chair Janet Gerner, Council Rep.

Stewardship: Mike Kahl, Chair Dick Kunsch, Council Rep.

Welcoming Team: Cathy Kahl, Chair Donna Searchfield, Council Rep.

Worship and Music: Jean Herbranson, Chair Aimee Hillegas, Council Rep.

> Office Assistants: June Henzie Kay Mann Joan Carl Pat Renninger

The Circle Editor: Sonya K. Sowards **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.

Live Generously

If you are a member of Thrivent, you are eligible to apply for two Action Team Grants each year to benefit your church. 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 <u>www.thrivent.com</u>.

Photos by Dylan Gillis, Jason Leung, Pro Church Media, Visual Stories || Micheile, DESIGNECOLOGIST and Myriam Zilles on Unsplash.com St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church 355 St. John's Circle Phoenixville, PA 19460-2582



ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

(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 weekend through Labor Day) Handicapped Accessible

THE CIRCLE



November 2021