

The Circle

October 2022



Join us for an Intergenerational
Crock Pot Cookoff!

All are Welcome



October 16, 2022 in Kley Hall

Setup will begin at 4:30pm
Eating and judging will begin at 5:00pm

**Bring an appetizer, main dish, side dish or a dessert
*IN A CROCK POT***

or join us to taste and vote for your favorite dish!

Paper products, lemonade and water will be provided.

Sign up by emailing Sonya at office@stjohnphoenixville.org, clicking this link <https://forms.gle/fQrqwRwLtc4sdXwRZ> or using the QR code below.



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Stewardship Sunday is scheduled for November 20th. Be sure to look for the pledge cards in the mail



TRUNK OR TREAT

sunday, oct. 30th

RAIN OR SHINE | 3PM IN OUTSIDE LOT
RAIN LOCATION IS KLEY HALL

Email Molly to sign up to host a trunk!
koerberm@stjohnphoenixville.org

Two Congregations Become One: The St. John's - Central Merger

By
Jack Ertell

In 1962, the congregation of St. John's moved into their new building on the Circle. Over the next several years, the congregation continued to grow in its new location. In Phoenixville there was another Lutheran congregation, Central Lutheran Church, founded only a few years after St. John's and located at the corner of Church and Main Street.



1950s Photo of Central Lutheran Church

Founded by English-speaking Lutherans, Central was chartered in 1875 and incorporated in 1878. It purchased the Mennonite Meeting Hall, which had been built in 1873 replacing a smaller structure first built in 1794. The Mennonites had a long history in the Phoenixville area and had often lent use of their place of worship for other newly founded congregations, including St. John's. However, the Mennonite congregation, founded in a more agrarian era, continued to dwindle in membership and chose to sell their building. Central Lutheran acquired their building and also the adjacent substantial cemetery.

With pastors who came primarily from synods in central Pennsylvania, the congregation grew slowly, but steadily. In 1903, it built a large addition to the church. Central was known for its fine music programs and involvement in the Phoenixville community.

In 1950, it celebrated its 75th anniversary. In the early 1950s, a major renovation took place to make the basement more usable and enhance the overall building.

Despite the renovations, as the congregation moved into the 1960s, membership leveled off and weekly attendance dropped. With six churches in two blocks of Church Street, parking for worship was a detriment to all of the churches. In 1967, Central's new pastor was Rev. Leon C. Zinkler, recently ordained as a Lutheran Pastor by the Northeast Pennsylvania Synod after having served as an ordained Methodist pastor for the previous six years.

In 1968, discussions between the two congregations began. Pr. William A. Davis (who had come to St. John's the year before) and Pr. Zinkler and four lay members from each congregation met as a committee, later referring to themselves as the merger committee. An early agreement, at the April 28 meeting, was to recommend to the church councils that confirmation classes be held jointly with the pastors sharing in leading the classes. By the committee's May meeting, both councils had approved. Also at the May meeting, a subcommittee was formed to write a draft merger document and corporate resolution for review. The four members of the subcommittee were the two pastors, David M. Frees, Jr. of Central and Mary Baylitts of St. John's. It was agreed that David Frees would write a draft of the two documents to be reviewed by the pastors and finalized by the entire merger committee.

The goal was to have completed documents ready to submit to both councils by September 1st and sent to the Synod Council for approval by September 22nd. If approved by the two church councils and Synod, congregational meetings would be held in late September with January 1st as the target date for an official merger of the two congregations. The merger document and the corporate resolution were approved by both church councils and Synod. September 29th was set for congregational meetings to conduct voting.

On September 29th, at congregational meetings, the vote for the merger of Central and St. John's was held. The results were:

St. John's	208 Yes Votes	37 No Votes
Central	58 Yes Votes	48 No Votes

Continued on next page . . .

Two Congregations Become One (continued)

With both congregations approving, the legal process of combining two 'corporate' entities had to occur and approval by the Synod. Attorney Fred Deininger undertook the necessary legal work while a committee worked on combining finances of the two congregations and planning for special activities to launch the "new" congregation. The two pastors, along with David Wilson of Central and Roger Sifford of St. John's, set upon the task of drafting a new congregational constitution.

At their November meeting, it was agreed to hold a special congregational meeting on the afternoon of Sunday, January 5, 1969 to be followed by a congregational buffet dinner. The important business matters at the meeting would be to officially act on all the necessary details of the merger—adopting a new constitution and bylaws, approving a congregational budget, extending pastoral calls and electing a new church council. The President of the newly created Southeastern Pennsylvania Synod, Dr. William A. Janson, Jr. was invited to preach at that Sunday's worship service.

In early December, letters were sent to all members of the congregations noting that the "new" congregation would officially begin in January, 1969 with details of the service for January 5th, the congregational meeting and dinner. Members were asked to confirm their attendance as the buffet dinner was being catered at a cost of \$1.20 per/person (no charge for children under five).

As the congregation moved forward, services would be initially held at both locations. Beginning the following week, "on the Circle" were worship at 8:15 and 11 a.m. and Sunday School at 9:30; a service would be held at Church and Main at 9:30. Both pastors would continue to serve the congregation. Pr. Davis would ultimately serve as the pastor until retiring in 1986. Pr. Zinkler left later in 1969 to serve as an interim pastor and consultant to several Lutheran and UCC congregations in northeastern Pennsylvania until retiring from ministry in 1999. Additionally, he earned his doctorate and was a full-time Sociology professor at East Stroudsburg University from 1969 until retirement in 2002.



The "new" St. John's had challenges as the members blended into a single congregation, some whose opposition was so strong that they chose to worship elsewhere. The use of the downtown building dwindled over the years and by the late 1970s the property was regarded as a financial drain. In 1980, St. John's sold the former Central Lutheran to the Historical Society of the Phoenixville Area. The money from the sale, \$87,400, was used to establish the Outreach Fund still in existence today.

Symbolic of the unifying of two congregations, the jointly held confirmation classes begun in 1968 came to fulfillment with the confirmation class of 1969. The confirmation photo shows 23 smiling confirmands with both Pastors Zinkler and Davis.

Please welcome our newest member, Mimi Woods. Mimi attends Evening Light. With no Welcoming Committee right now, we need all of you to welcome her! Please send Mimi a note at 50 Pennsylvania Avenue in Phoenixville or give her a call at (610) 933-3131. Welcome Mimi!



Here's to Thomas Snyder – Director Of Music, Deacon.

With appreciation and celebration!

We know how the old saying goes, “Time flies when we’re having fun.” For many at St. John’s, our Director of Music, Thomas Snyder—Deacon, or just “Tom” to most of us, has been faithfully part of our congregation as leader, director, in many diverse ways. And now, that time extends back to over 30 years! So, it’s time to pause and do what Lutherans love to do: celebrate! Although the pandemic messed with many events, we are continuing to make things right by celebrating Tom’s anniversary during our Reformation Sunday service, October 30, 2022. During that service we will debut a new hymn “Word of God, Come Down on Earth.”¹ It was commissioned by the musical friends; choirs, bells, instrumentalists, and the listeners at St John’s in grateful appreciation of Tom’s many years of service to the people of this congregation.



As with Tom’s and Joe Lewis’ combined, earlier anniversary in 2010, an anthem was commissioned by St. John’s, and composed by Thomas Keesecker. Keesecker’s latest, “Word of God, Come Down on Earth,” has since been published by Augsburg-Fortress and is now available online or through sheet music retailers. The text of the new hymn is one of Tom’s favorites. Also, that service will feature the earlier 2010, “Sing to the Lord a New Song,” as the Psalm of the Day. So please mark your calendars and plan to attend! There will be further announcements as plans develop.

Although funds were collected by the Choir and Adult Bells, we are still accepting contributions for the dedication of the new hymn in Tom’s honor. Please feel free and we encourage you to place your contribution in the offering plate. But please be sure to “ear-mark” it by writing on the outside, “Snyder Celebration Fund.”

For those who may not know, Tom is a graduate in music from Susquehanna University in 1974. He grew up and resides in Schwenksville, within the nearby Perkiomen Valley. Though originally from the Reformed Church, Tom has spent most of his career faithfully serving the Lutheran Church, first in the LCA that continues now as the ELCA. After a stint in teaching, he was called in 1975 to Zion Lutheran Church, Spring City as Director of Music. In October 1983, Tom was recognized by the LCA as a “Certified Lay Professional Leader.” After the 1987 merger that saw the creation of the ELCA, his title was changed to “Associate in Ministry.” In 1990 Tom began his call at St John’s as “Director of Music.” He was consecrated or recognized as “Deacon” by the ELCA in 2017.

And now, for some well-earned praise for Tom, highlighting a “few,” of the things he does for our congregation. Tom prepares and provides for us diverse and fresh music for worship. He has worked with our organists; first with Joseph Lewis who retired some 8 years ago but who still visits and guest plays for us often. In addition to working with organist John Quinn as well as with the various musical programs at St Johns: the Adult Choir, Youth Choir, Adult Handbells, the (exciting) Children’s Handells and supporting music in our Sunday Church School, Tom often reaches out to the wider musical community who crave good, solid, inspirational, or religious music. Until the pandemic, he continued the annual St. Johns & Friends Concert series begun by his predecessors many decades ago. The series provides an opportunity to blend members of other church choirs or friends in our community who love singing with our Adult Choir to perform major works in our acoustically superb sanctuary. Often there’s an orchestra. These events usually took place on the 1st Sunday evening in May. Tom hopes to resume the series soon. Additionally, Tom works with local orchestral and instrumental enthusiasts who play together under his direction, as the “Providence Chamber Orchestra.” Several times a year they present some truly wonderful symphonic sounds with their performances, again in our St John’s sanctuary.

Behind the scenes Tom diligently performs the jobs of several people. Except for the folks in choir, bell ringers or those in the business of making music, Tom’s work as Director is more of a combination “Director,” and “Producer.” He pays attention to the many details that allows all of our volunteer musicians to prepare and grow into the music we sing or perform. Tom’s work as Deacon has been to advocate to many other groups in our congregation. He serves on several committees: Worship & Music, Education and Property. Tom has worked with pastors, guest pastors, musical guests, students, teachers or employees who have played, performed or worked within our parish spaces. Occasionally and recently, Tom has led us in worship.

¹Using the text from #510 in the “Evangelical Lutheran Worship,” Hymnal

Continued on next page . . .

Here's to Thomas Snyder (continued)

When Tom leads us in performing an anthem, always while standing with his back to the congregation, he so often sets the right religious mood! He has strengthened the choir program by mixing many of the best voices while teaching us the value of listening to each other as we sing or play. But there's more. Tom makes sure we each receive a copy of the score or sheet music. He rehearses the choirs or bells. He takes the time to sort out the parts, in getting us to think about the words we are singing while urging us to listen to one another. works up the "ensemble," to get the right sound. And that's when the fun starts as we begin, "making music." Tom will offer cues, the right sort of emotion, the sense of the moment or the season. And he tells some good jokes. Then, we finally get to rehearse or perform in one of the most beautiful musical spaces in the world—our very own sanctuary! And Tom keeps on working the music as it just gets better. We often see or learn that Tom is already moving ahead to the next round of music, event or work on the agenda. During this last year of the pastoral vacancy, we've enjoyed enthralling Pastor K as he sits up front in the sanctuary with the sound of our singing under Tom's direction. And that's one of the best forms of praising God imaginable. As the words of the psalm within the 2010 anthem says, "Our music is a gift of love, a song we gladly sing!"² Truly we've been blessed.

And so, we look forward to sharing this love and appreciation with Tom this next October 30th. It will be a time to celebrate Reformation in music, the larger Lutheran Church as well as the continuing Reformation in the life of St Johns! Won't you join with us? All are welcome!

Respectfully Submitted,
Mark R. Wallace

Wait, There's More!

If you have a smart-phone, device or computer connected to the internet and want to sample some music directed by Tom or dedicated to him? Here are three selections from many of the services that have been streamed for online viewing:

For some robust hymn singing, dial up the Easter Sunday, April 17,2022 service on YouTube that our "Stream-Team," recorded here; <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SPSZkSgjlOY&t=2841s>

Go to the 46 minute mark and listen to the last two stanzas of the hymn of the day, "Good Christian Friends Re-joyce & Sing." Listen to Tom leading all of us gathered that day to sing praises to the Risen Lord.

For a wonderful example of the subtlety and diversity of bell playing by the Adult Handbells, dial up the November 14,2021 service on YouTube that our "Stream-Team," recorded here;

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=U9JRoPFsXoE>

Go to the 5 minute mark and listen to the prelude, "Celtic Grace, Slane & Sarah's Theme," arranged by Tammy Wal-drop in 3 mini-movements lasting about 4 minutes Guess the Hymn-tune.

Here is the earlier 2010 anthem "Sing to the Lord a New Song," in "demo" form.

<https://www.sheetmusicplus.com/title/sing-to-the-lord-a-new-song-choral-score-sheet-music/19526545>

There's a little button marked "Listen," that will play a demonstration version. But folks, truly hearing our choir, bells and organist play with several of our Adult Bells playing it in our sanctuary, is so much better! It will be the Psalm for the Day on October 30, 2022. Oh, and the composer gave a little gift for each one of us to sing or play. Plus, everyone gets to sing along in the chorus!

MRW

²From "*Sing to the Lord a New Song*," by Thomas Keesacker, 2010, MorningStar Music Publishers

Here's a big thank you to Bobbi Riley and her committee for the wonderful lunch served at our 150th anniversary luncheon.
June Henzie



7:30 p.m, Wednesday, October 5, Adult Choir begins rehearsing music for the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Additional singers, especially older youth, are invited to join in preparation of this joyful music. Christmas selections will begin rehearsals. Come, join the angels singing. For additional information contact Tom Snyder, Director of Music, ftsiii@gmail.com.

Sunday, October 2, 8:30 am. in the sanctuary

An opportunity to learn how to become an acolyte, receive some basic training, or a chance to brush up on what you know. Open to 4th grade and above.

Molly Koerber & Tom Snyder

Leaders

Please let Molly know you'll be attending

KoerberM@stjohnphoenixville.org



Italian Pasta Party 2022!



Phoenixville Area Time Bank is celebrating autumn with our 9th annual Italian Pasta Party on Saturday, October 22nd. 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 22nd from St John's, 5-7 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 18th. 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 <https://www.patimebank.org/events-1/pasta-party-2022-tickets> Questions? Call (610) 608-9281 or email pa.timedollar@gmail.com

Kay Mann dictated this note to Sonya about a week before she passed away:

Kay Mann would like to thank all the St. John's members who prayed, called, and visited while she has been home-bound. She is feeling better and has been able to get to church with the help of Dana Deichmann. Thank you!

We will miss Kay very much!



School Supplies Needed!

Consider shopping for your children AND children around the world when you hit the stores for the great back-to-school-supplies deals now in progress. Lutheran World Relief accepts donations of "school kit" backpacks which they distribute around the globe to school-aged children (<https://lwr.org/instructions>).

The St. John's Children's Sunday School plans to assemble LWR backpacks on Sunday, October 16, 2022. We hope to make another 100 bags this year.

We need: 70-sheet notebooks (wide or college rule)

30-cm rulers (inches on one side and centimeters on the other)

pencil sharpeners

scissors (blunt or safety tips)

2.5-inch erasers

16 or 24 count box of crayons

ball point pens (black or blue, no gel-pens)



School Supply Drive

Please consider donating to this special cause. New items only are needed with no patriotic or religious symbols on them. You can buy a lot or just a few items or make a monetary donation that will allow us to purchase anything necessary to complete our kits. Donations can be left in the designated bin in the narthex. Items will be collected until Sunday, October 2nd.

Update on our 2021 School Kits: These kits were sent to Peru in early March.

Confirmation Photos Still Needed

During this 150th Anniversary year, we continue to seek confirmation photos to make our records complete. If you have any of the needed photos and with names, if possible, please lend them to us for scanning. Contact Jack Ertell (610-948-1278 or jertell@comcast.net) or drop off at the church office. The originals will be returned. Thanks! The 150th Committee



Photos Needed:

Before 1940: Need all except 1917 and 1937 and 1939

1940s: 1940, 1941, 1945, 1946, 1947, 1949

1950s: 1950, 1951, 1952, 1953, 1954

1960s: WE HAVE THEM ALL!

1970s: 1972, 1977, 1978

1980s: 1982, 1983, 1987

1990s: 1991, 1993, 1996, 1997, 1998, 1999

2000s: 2002, 2003, 2005, 2006, 2007, 2008, 2009

2010s: Need all except 2018 and 2019

2020s: 2020, 2021, 2022

WELCA is off to a great start.

First, a huge thank you to the congregation for continuing support.

Keep those toiletries, cards, tablets, and Redner's register tapes coming.

The response to dessert requests has been wonderful and greatly appreciated by everyone involved.

We're enjoying a visit of the therapy dogs in September and have some interesting programs planned for the year ahead.

We will meet on Tuesday, October 25th at 10:30 a.m. in Eisenhower to decorate gift bags for our shut-ins and staff and to make ornaments for the Angel Tree.



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

Altar Guild

- 2 Nancy Cressman & Janet Ertell
- 9 Donna Anderson & Cathy Garrett
- 16 Jean Herbranson
- 23 Betty Hans & Jean Herbranson
- 30 Jean Herbranson

Assisting Minister

- 2 Nancy Cressman
- 9 Tom Snyder
- 16 Ron Stevens
- 23 Erin Fazzari
- 30 Ron Stevens

Coffee Hour

- 2 Faith Formation

Communion Assistant/Lector

- 2 Bill Starling
- 9 Mitch Reading
- 16 Mitch Reading
- 23 Walt Deichmann
- 30 Lynn Titus

Counters

- 2 Stephen & Jen Drewes, Donna Anderson
- 9 Heather Yonosh, Jeanne Schanzenbach
- 16 Mary Heiser, Mike & Cathy Kahl
- 23 Stephen & Jen Drewes
- 30 Mary Heiser, Mike & Cathy Kahl

Lock-Up

- 2 Bobbi Riley
- 9 Mitch Reading
- 16 Kelly Gallagher
- 23 Sue Starling
- 30 Aimee Hillegas

Stream Team

- 2 Aimee Hillegas Paul Miller
- 9 Josh Romano, Dale Herbranson
- 16 Dale Herbranson, Paul Miller
- 23 Josh Romano, Dale Herbranson
- 30 Aimee Hillegas, Paul Miller

Ushers

- 2 Sue Starling & Cathy Garrett
- 9 Diane Blattner & Nancy Cressman
- 16 Zach Brown & Barry Church
- 23 Cathy & Mike Kahl
- 30 Dick Kunsch & Don Titus

Summary Financial Report as of August 31, 2022

	Monthly		Year-to-Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Income:				
Envelope Giving	\$ 29,724	\$ 21,726	\$ 237,789	\$ 197,089
Other Income	3,267	2,757	26,133	26,865
	\$ 32,990	\$ 24,484	\$ 263,923	\$ 223,955
Expenses	\$ 36,089	\$ 19,238	\$ 288,710	\$ 211,807
Income (Deficit)	\$ (3,098)	\$ 5,246	\$ (24,787)	\$ 12,148



Save Your Cans

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

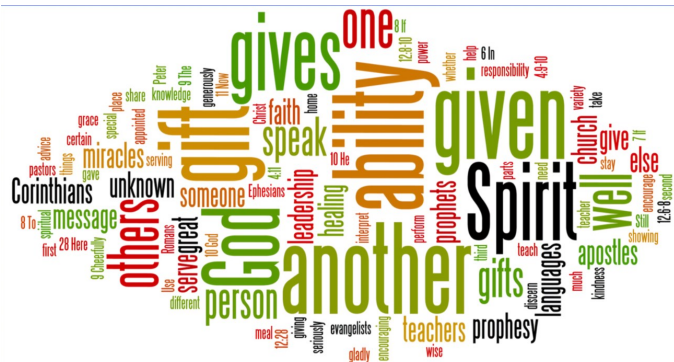


Stephen Ministries

Would you like to be Stephen Leader? Stephen Ministries is offering 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.

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.



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.

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 www.thrivent.com.



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 live-stream 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!

Give to St. John’s Via 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, email Dale Herbranson at dale.herbranson@outlook.com.

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!

Scan this QR code to give to the many ministries of St. John’s from your phone!



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.

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2022**

Attendees:							
Dick Kunsch	P	Mitch Reading	P	Dale Herbranson	P	Stephen Drewes	P
Kelly Gallagher	P	Janet Gerner	A	Sue Starling	P	Sandra Zimmermann	P
Aimee Hillegas	P	Bobbi Riley	P	Don Titus	A	Mike Kahl	P
Guests:							
Sonya Sowards	P	Tom Snyder	P	Jen Wentworth	P		

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 pm by Mitch Reading for Stephen Drewes; Mitch led an opening prayer.

Prior Meeting Minutes

Motion by Dick, Second by Dale to accept the minutes; motion passed.

Staff Reports

Motion by Sue, Second by Mitch to accept the Staff Reports; motion passed.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee from June 6, 2022.

- Nothing for Council.

Motion by Dale, Second by Dick to accept the Finance Report; motion passed.

Council reviewed the following Committee Reports:

- Electronics Committee from June 5, 2022 – accepted as written
- Faith Formation from June 1, 2022 – accepted as written
- Property Committee from June 2, 2022 - accepted as written. Property continues to gather estimates and information on the major projects that will need to be done in the foreseeable future, so that Council can then prioritize and discuss potential funding options. HVAC contractors have been particularly hard to nail down.
- Worship and Music Committee from June 7, 2022 – accepted as written
- Social Ministry Committee from June 8, 2022 – accepted as written
- Fellowship Committee – did not meet; continuing to deliver cakes but struggling with old contact info. Will reach out to get updated info and share all updates with Sonya.
- Columbarium Committee – did not meet
- Executive Committee – did not meet
- Stewardship Committee – did not meet
- Welcome Team Committee - did not meet

Motion by Sandy, Second by Dick to accept committee reports; Motion passed.

Old Business

- St. John's 150th Anniversary – Logos were submitted, winners were chosen. Notifications will go out soon.
- Call Committee for Pastor - continuing to pursue candidates.
- Call Committee for Director of Children, Youth and Families – Had first committee meeting – Evan Aho, Bill Starling, Erica Reading, Jodi O'Neill, Brian Becker and Kelly Gallagher. Created job posting, Sonya has posted it on the Synod website and the St. John's Facebook page.
- Executive Committee will be re-evaluating compensation of Sexton position.

New Business

- Planning for funeral of Tammy Klotzbach.
- Summer meeting – we will skip July, and reconvene August 8th. If the call committee needs a special meeting, Mitch will call it accordingly.

Mike made the motion to adjourn the meeting at 7: pm; Mitch seconded; meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer. Next regular meeting is August 8, 2022.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Starling
Church Council Member at Large

What is this life?
If full of care
We have no time
To stand and stare
No time to lay
On earth and
Watch the stars
Far overhead
No time no time no time
There's much to do
Ahh yes a poor
Life this if
We have no time
To stand and stare
Nor time to hear
Winds soft caresses
Or feel a gentle
Summer warmth
No time no time
A poor life this
If we have no time to stand
And stare

Margaret Walker

Dear Friends:

On behalf of Phoenixville Women's Outreach, we would like to thank you for your recent donation of \$1,000. Our organization relies on gifts like yours and we are grateful for your support. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

Sincerely,
Andrea N. Blue
Executive Director
Phoenixville Women's Outreach

Dear St. John's Lutheran Church:

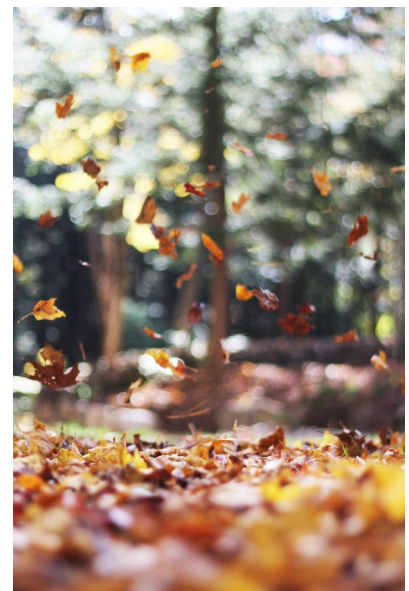
Thank you for your gift of \$1,500 to Lutheran Disaster Response. Your Spirit-filled generosity is helping families and communities reeling from disasters here in the United States and around the world. Thank you for your gracious gifts. The glory of God is shining through you.

With you in the Spirit,

The Rev. Daniel Rift
Director, Mission Funding
ELCA World Hunger and Lutheran
Disaster Response

Meadows where fox and rabbit
Dwelt song of a bird falls on
One's ear pleasant is the sound
Of nature's peace what
Stories these stone walls sing
For they come from
Barns that sheltered
Cows horses sheep many an
Animal or bird did we
Shelter now we old stones
Give comfort abiding peace
Tarry a while friendship's peace
To all I give as you walk
Around me may peace of God's
Love surround you those
Who rest in my loving shade
Those who walk without fear
My peace I give that all
May know that sanctuary
Of peace where peace abides
St. John's church

Margaret Walker



October 2022

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
25 First Bible begins 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm PCO Rehearsal	26 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	27 10:30am WELCA 5:30pm Girl Scouts Troops 42024 & 4514 6:30pm Parent Grief Support Group 7:30pm Fellowship Committee	28 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	29 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal	30 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	1 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
2 8:30am Acolyte Training 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion	3 10am MAEVE Moms Mingle 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry	4 10:15am Staff 6:30pm Parent Grief Support Group 7:30pm Worship & Music	5 3pm Social Ministry 5pm Girl Scouts #41766 6:30pm Junior/Cadette Scouts 7pm Alanon 7pm Faith Formation Committee 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	6 6:30pm Girl Scouts #04013 6:30pm Kiwanis 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal	7 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	8 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
9 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm PCO Rehearsal	10 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Church Council	11 5:30pm Girl Scouts Troops 42024 & 4514 6:30pm Parent Grief Support Group	12 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	13 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal	14 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	15 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
16 9am Christian Education- LWR Backpacks 10:15am Holy Communion 5pm Crock Pot Cook-Off	17 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Stephen Ministry	18 Circle deadline 10am MAEVE Moms Art & Music 6:30pm Parent Grief Support Group	19 5pm Girl Scouts #41766 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	20 6:30pm Girl Scouts #04013 6:30pm Kiwanis 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal 8:15pm Naranon Support	21 St. Peter's lunch 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	22 12pm Time Bank Spaghetti Dinner 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
23 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm PCO Rehearsal	24 11am Alanon Family Group 11am Covered Bridge Garden Club	25 10:30am WELCA 5:30pm Girl Scouts Troops 42024 & 4514 6:30pm Parent Grief Support Group 7:30pm Fellowship Committee	26 6:30pm Junior/Cadette Scouts 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	27 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal	28 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	29 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
30 9am Christian Education 10:15am Holy Communion 11am Snyder Celebration 3pm Trunk or Treat	31 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	1 10:15am Staff 6:30pm Parent Grief Support Group 7:30pm Worship & Music	2 3pm Social Ministry 5pm Girl Scouts #41766 6:30pm Junior/Cadette Scouts 7pm Alanon 7pm Faith Formation Committee 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30pm Girl Scouts #04013 6:30pm Kiwanis 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal	4 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)

October 2022—Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> Courtney Quaglia's birthday P.J. Gadzicki's birthday Sandi Stotler's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> Charles and Heather Thompson's anniversary Chloe Fox's birthday Donald Bechtel's birthday Jennifer Brown's birthday Mitch Reading's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> Brett Emery's birthday Sophia Seidel's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> Heather Yonosh's birthday Nicholas VanDerveer's birthday Peter and Diane Sitkowski's anniversary	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> Allyssa Andrews's birthday Courtney Morgan's birthday Julie Andrews's birthday Kent and Jennifer Brown's anniversary Megan Tribuno's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> Brian and Amy Becker's anniversary	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p>
<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> Isaac Henderson's birthday Jim Taylor's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> Garrett and Margit Grejdus's anniversary	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">6</p> Karen Warren's birthday Sam Fryer's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">7</p> Gabrielle Perrotto's birthday Jennifer Rutherford's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">8</p> Jonathan and Kate Hicks's anniversary
<p style="text-align: right;">9</p> Christopher and Mary Scavello's anniversary Simon DiGioia's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">10</p> Beth Kramer's birthday Courtney Wilkinson's birthday Denise Longbine's birthday Kelly LeMarbe's birthday Larry and Kim Fetters's anniversary Robbie McMahon's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">11</p> Nicole Brown's birthday Peg Groening's birthday Stephen and Cindy Riley's anniversary Wynne Salvas's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">12</p> Brian Schanzenbach's birthday Shari Bradley's birthday Stephen and Jen Drewes's anniversary William and Barbara Sell's anniversary	<p style="text-align: right;">13</p> 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	<p style="text-align: right;">14</p> Glynys LaBoon's birthday Jim and Claudine Niness's anniversary Kristin and Lisa McGregor's anniversary Lyndsey Williams's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">15</p> Gail Doebbling's birthday Simon Khan's birthday Stephen and Ashleigh Melton's anniversary
<p style="text-align: right;">16</p> Keith Kenyon's birthday Nicholas Stotler's birthday Zach Pekofsky's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">17</p> Greg Krueger's birthday Mark Buckwalter's birthday Sam Ritchie's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">18</p> Erin Fazzari's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">19</p> Sarah Smith's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">20</p> Connor Strauss's birthday Isaac Leong's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">21</p> Kal Saeger's birthday Kyle Oszeyczik's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">22</p> Amelia Hicks's birthday George Wilkinson's birthday Justin Rawlins's birthday
<p style="text-align: right;">23</p> Nicholas DeWolf's birthday William Sell's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">24</p> A. Lee Dalasio's birthday Lisa McGregor's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">25</p> Melissa Rutherford's birthday Ron Williams and Venus Hadeed's anniversary TJ Babinchak's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">26</p> Mark Gerner's birthday Richard Ash's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">27</p> Iain Riley's birthday Lizzy Strunk's birthday Paul and Mary Miller's anniversary	<p style="text-align: right;">28</p> Dale Herbranson's birthday Harper Themens's birthday Mike and Maryanne Mara's anniversary	<p style="text-align: right;">29</p> Beth Snyder's birthday
<p style="text-align: right;">30</p> Gracie Themens's birthday Miranda McMahon's birthday Noah Deichmann's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">31</p> Alexandra Perrotto's birthday Edwin Walters's birthday Terri McDonnell's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">1</p> Lisa Wimble's birthday	<p style="text-align: right;">2</p> Iain and Bridget Riley's anniversary	<p style="text-align: right;">3</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">4</p> Jim Steiner's birthday Tom and Lindsey Snyder's anniversary	<p style="text-align: right;">5</p> Rachel Possinger's birthday

St. John's Lutheran Church
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CHURCH STAFF

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Director of Music:

F. Thomas Snyder III

Organist & Pianist:

John A. Quinn III

Parish Administrator:

Sonya K. Sowards

Sexton:

Mark Yanchek, Jr.

Nursery Coordinator:

Arlene Hudak

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Funeral

Kay Mann

September 14, 2022

Updated Contact Information

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Photos by

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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

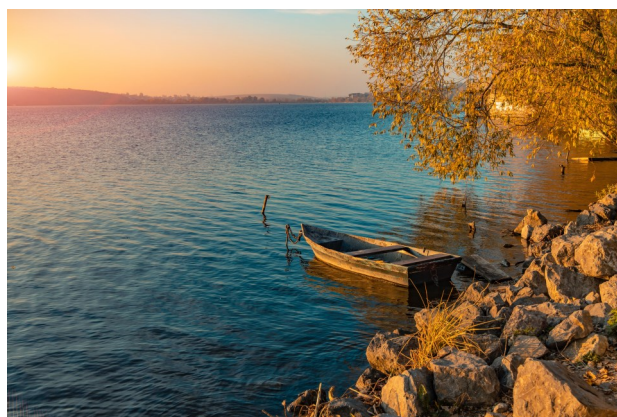
(fall, winter and spring)

9:00 a.m. Holy Communion

(Memorial Day weekend through Labor Day)

Handicapped Accessible

THE CIRCLE



October 2022