# The Circle

## Summer 2024



Dear Friends in Christ,

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations," Jesus said to his followers. It sometimes feels a little weird to think of ourselves as Jesus' disciples; it's a title that feels like it should be reserved for Jesus' companions in his earthly life, who knew him and worked with him and learned from him in a very particular way. But you and I are just as much Jesus' disciples as Peter and James and John were, and over the coming year, I'm looking forward to working with St. John's Lutheran Church to grow in discipleship together.

I'm intentionally not saying "to become disciples," or "to become better disciples," because that's not really how discipleship works. It's not an on/off kind of situation. Discipleship is something that you grow into, and something that you can grow and develop, not something that gets turned on when you need it and off when you don't. Discipleship is a way of living in and deepening that relationship with God that we all have. Everyone's relationship with God is different, and rooted in their own individual personality and life, but the outward markers of those relationships are things that are pretty common. The resource that I've been using as I've been talking with congregational leaders about this lists six marks of discipleship. They are: daily prayer, daily scripture reading, weekly worship, growth in giving, serving others in Jesus' name, and sharing the Good News of Jesus with those outside the church.

We're going to learn about each of those things over the coming months, starting in September with daily prayer. But discipleship isn't just about learning—it's about doing, and about practicing. And it's about practicing those acts both in the sense of practicing law or medicine (which is to say, taking the principles and applying them in life), and also in the sense of practicing a musical instrument or a sport (where the more free-throws you shoot, the more comfortable you become doing them and the easier it is to do it). Because of that, we're going to work on ways to give everyone at St. John's opportunities to not just learn about those practices, and to not just talk about those practices, but to do them, together as a congregation.

I know some of those practices of discipleship are going to be more challenging than others for me, and I have a feeling that that's going to be true for everyone here. But I know that of the ones that I do the most often, the more I do them, the easier it is for me to continue to do them; and also that the more I do them, the more closely connected to God I feel. My hope and prayer for us all in the coming year is that as we develop and grow in those practices of discipleship as individuals and as a congregation, we'll find that our relationship with God, and with one another, has grown stronger as well.

I'm looking forward to the work that we'll do together as we work to grow in discipleship this year!

In Christ,

Pastor Russ



August 23, 2024 at 5:30pm Back parking lot of St. John's







BYOB & BYOLC (bring your own lawn chair!)
Bring a yard game and bring a friend!

Our final meeting until September was held on June 4th. This continues to be one of our favorites. In addition to helping prepare for VBS, we connect with our inner child and fellowship with one another. It's kind of like an annual play date.



Although we will not meet during July and August, WELCA collections continue throughout the summer (toiletries, cards, notepads, tote bags, etc.). Please place items in the narthex labeled "WELCA." We appreciate your continued support.



## SAVE THE DATE for the Phoenixville Area Time Bank **Annual Pasta Party!**

October 26,2024

Enjoy authentic Italian cuisine and take a chance to win a gift basket while supporting the Phoenixville Area Time Bank by participating in annual Italian pasta party, to be held this year on October 26th!

PATB's take-out dinner features Nick Castellano's traditional Italian gravy (meatballs and sausage) and pasta. Spaghetti squash is offered as an alternative to pasta and our vegetarian sauce is offered as an alternative to the Italian gravy. Each dinner also includes parmesan cheese, breadsticks, salad, and des-

Orders can be placed online starting October 1st or, if you prefer, you may call in your order to (610) 608-9281.

We are again partnering with Good Samaritan Services in Phoenixville to include an option to purchase a meal that is donated to residents at the organization's homeless shelter for men. We encourage everyone who can to chip in and buy an extra meal for them!

Along with dinners, raffle tickets can be purchased for a number of enticing and themed gift baskets.

If you have any questions or need help with your order, please call Margo at (610) 608-9281, or email info@patimebank.org.

PATB graciously thanks St. John's Lutheran Church for its support again this year as our take-out location. MAMA MIA!!



## **Envelope Giving**

Other Income

Expenses

Income (Deficit)

	Budget		-	Actual	Budget			Actual	
	\$	27,995	\$	27,544	\$	139,973	\$	152,839	
		3,791		3,045		18,958		17,439	
	\$	31,786	\$	30,589	\$	158,931	\$	170,278	
	\$	39,745	\$	37,501	\$	198,726	\$	195,867	
	Ψ	55,145	Ψ	37,301	Ψ	130,720	Ψ	133,007	

(6,912)

Year-to-Date

(39,795)

(25.589)

Summary Financial Report as of May 31, 2024

Monthly

(7,959)



### Kitchen Renovation—we're almost there!

We are on a path that will take St. John's to a renovated, *Health Department-licensed* kitchen. **We just need to raise the FUNDS to do it.**"

Lhötse and Maddie and their unbelievable lemonade and muffin stands got us off to a fantastic fundraising start, netting just over \$6,000!!!

The initial congregational response to the appeal letter was equally amazing with over \$13,000 donated in the first 10 days.

Donations have continued to come in and as of June 19<sup>th</sup>, we have raised \$38,026 toward our goal of \$42,000—we just need to close the gap to be able to renovate this summer.

If you have not already done so, PLEASE consider donating to the Kitchen Renovation Fund.

Ways to donate:

- Check payable to St. John's—put "kitchen" on your envelope.
- Give online at stjohnluthphoenixville.org
- Use the QR Code to the right



#### **Aluminum Can Collection Update**



Effective immediately, aluminum animal food cans are no longer accepted mixed in with aluminum beverage cans by the metal recycle facility we use. The companies to whom they sell their materials have coded the aluminum content of animal food cans differently than that of beverage cans so they cannot be mixed.

Therefore, St. John's will now only be collecting aluminum beverage cans. All varieties of aluminum beverage cans, such as soda, sparkling water, and adult beverages, are acceptable. Since they are stored for some period as we col-

lect enough weight for a worthwhile drop off, please rinse the cans and be sure they are empty before dropping them off at the church.

Thank you for your continued support of this financially productive ministry. Proceeds from the recycled cans result in hundreds of dollars yearly for our youth activities. Keep those beverage cans coming!

People of God Involved in God's Work	Evening Light Assistant
Summer Worship Staff	July
Altar Guild	6 Sandy Momyer
July	13 Rich Latella
7 Nancy Cressman & Janet Ertell	20 Sandy Momyer
14 Donna Anderson & Cathy Garrett	27 Shirley Platzer
21 Jean Herbranson	August
28 Betty Hans & Jean Herbranson	4 Sandy Momyer
August	11 TBD
4 Nancy Cressman & Janet Ertell	18 TBD
11 Donna Anderson & Cathy Garrett	25 Shirley Platzer
18 Jean Herbranson	31 Sandy Momyer
25 Betty Hans & Jean Herbranson	Lock-Up
Assisting Minister	July
July	7 Kate Hicks
7 Ron Stevens	14 Jeanne Schanzenbach
14 Tom Snyder	21 Mike Kahl
21 Deb Ahola	28 Stephen Drewes
28 Ron Stevens	August
August	4 Kate Hicks
4 Bill Starling	11 Jeanne Schanzenbach
11 Tom Snyder	18 Mike Kahl
18 Deb Ahola	25 Kelly Gallagher
25 Bill Starling	Stream Team
Communion Assistant/Lector	July
July	7 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson
7 Mitch Reading	14 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller
14 Bill Starling	21 Aimee Hillegas & Paul Miller
21 Mimi Woods	28 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller
28 Lynn Titus	August
August	7 10.00.01
August	4 Aimee Hillegas & Dale Herbranson
_	4 Aimee Hillegas & Dale Herbranson 11 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson
4 Mimi Woods	11 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus	<ul><li>Josh Romano &amp; Dale Herbranson</li><li>Aimee Hillegas &amp; Paul Miller</li></ul>
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus 18 Mimi Woods	<ul> <li>Josh Romano &amp; Dale Herbranson</li> <li>Aimee Hillegas &amp; Paul Miller</li> <li>Dale Herbranson &amp; Paul Miller</li> </ul>
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus 18 Mimi Woods 25 Walt Deichmann	<ul> <li>Josh Romano &amp; Dale Herbranson</li> <li>Aimee Hillegas &amp; Paul Miller</li> <li>Dale Herbranson &amp; Paul Miller</li> <li>Ushers</li> </ul>
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus 18 Mimi Woods 25 Walt Deichmann Counters	11 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson 18 Aimee Hillegas & Paul Miller 25 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller <u>Ushers</u> July
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus 18 Mimi Woods 25 Walt Deichmann Counters July	11 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson 18 Aimee Hillegas & Paul Miller 25 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller  Ushers  July 7 Diane & Katelyn Blattner
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus 18 Mimi Woods 25 Walt Deichmann Counters July 7 Jack & Janet Ertell; Donna Anderson	11 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson 18 Aimee Hillegas & Paul Miller 25 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller  Ushers July 7 Diane & Katelyn Blattner 14 Sue Starling & Nancy Cressman
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus 18 Mimi Woods 25 Walt Deichmann Counters July 7 Jack & Janet Ertell; Donna Anderson 14 Heather Yonosh; Jeanne Schanzenbach	11 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson 18 Aimee Hillegas & Paul Miller 25 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller  Ushers July 7 Diane & Katelyn Blattner 14 Sue Starling & Nancy Cressman 21 Kelly & Kevin Gallagher
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus 18 Mimi Woods 25 Walt Deichmann  Counters  July 7 Jack & Janet Ertell; Donna Anderson 14 Heather Yonosh; Jeanne Schanzenbach 21 Mary Heiser; Mike & Cathy Kahl	11 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson 18 Aimee Hillegas & Paul Miller 25 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller  Ushers July 7 Diane & Katelyn Blattner 14 Sue Starling & Nancy Cressman 21 Kelly & Kevin Gallagher 28 Don Titus & Donna Anderson
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus 18 Mimi Woods 25 Walt Deichmann  Counters  July 7 Jack & Janet Ertell; Donna Anderson 14 Heather Yonosh; Jeanne Schanzenbach 21 Mary Heiser; Mike & Cathy Kahl 28 Stephen & Jen Drewes	11 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson 18 Aimee Hillegas & Paul Miller 25 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller  Ushers July 7 Diane & Katelyn Blattner 14 Sue Starling & Nancy Cressman 21 Kelly & Kevin Gallagher 28 Don Titus & Donna Anderson  August
4 Mimi Woods 11 Lynn Titus 18 Mimi Woods 25 Walt Deichmann  Counters  July 7 Jack & Janet Ertell; Donna Anderson 14 Heather Yonosh; Jeanne Schanzenbach 21 Mary Heiser; Mike & Cathy Kahl 28 Stephen & Jen Drewes  August	11 Josh Romano & Dale Herbranson 18 Aimee Hillegas & Paul Miller 25 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller  Ushers July 7 Diane & Katelyn Blattner 14 Sue Starling & Nancy Cressman 21 Kelly & Kevin Gallagher 28 Don Titus & Donna Anderson  August 4 Sue Starling & Cathy Garrett
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#### Dear friends of Mosaic:

We thank you for being the "hands and voice" of Christ with a donation of \$50. Your service and generosity bring new life by helping Mosaic live out its mission to love and serve all of God's children in the Mosaic family. It was very gracious of you to give tribute in memory of Pastor Arlene Greenwald.

Grace and peace,

Pastor Twila Schock

Vice President of Church Relations and International Programing

#### Dear Deb & Friends:

We want to express our gratitude to you and your volunteers for generously providing meals to St. Mary's Franciscan Shelter. We truly appreciate the time, money and effort put into preparing wonderful dinners. Our families enjoy well-rounded meals, from hearty main courses to delicious desserts our children love. We appreciate your dedication and support of our families.

In partnership,

Kate Garges

**Director of Residence Operations** 

St. Mary's Franciscan Shelter for Homeless Families

#### Dear Members of St. John's:

Just want to thank you for the very pretty birthday card and also the delicious large cupcake you gave me—strawberries and cream. Very good! Thank you, thank you, thank you. And also thank you to Jean Herbranson for the flowers from the altar!

Fondly,

Joan Carl

Thank you to my church family for giving me the delicious bundt cake and the flowers from the altar for my birth-day!

June Henzie

Gracious Lord of all That is all that shall Ever be grant earth and All those who dwell There in harmony of Peace guide us in Thy ways of peace That in Thy peace all Shall find rest

Margaret Walker

I sought my Lord in tranquil valleys
But He was not there I sought my Lord
Along sands of tranquil calm but found Him
Not I sought my Lord in pastures fair
But found Him not nor along peaceful
Paths then a storm blew fierce and
Strong and I was sore afraid a voice
I heard along the paths calm peace
My hand you did not need the paths
You walked were calm peace flowed
Gently now a storm arises casting
Anger in its path my arms hold you
Secure 'til the storms rage
Shall pass and tranquil
Lies the land

Margaret Walker

A blade of grass
A drop of dew
Simple not fancy
Yet they hold
The gift of life
One holds Christ's blood
One holds Christ's gift of love
That man God's holy love
Shall know each holds
A love given man that
He shall ever know
God's mercy

Margaret Walker

# Guidelines for Submission of Articles for St. John's Communications

Submissions to the Parish Administrator for insertion in St. John's communications may include worship, faith formation, social justice, music and community events, and any items directly related to St. John's mission of "Living, growing & sharing in God's love through Jesus Christ." Submissions received by Monday at 11:00 a.m. will be included in the following Sunday's bulletin. Later submissions will appear in the following week's bulletin. All submissions are also included in all other applicable forms of communication (email, social media, website, slides, etc.) as soon as possible after receipt.

Submissions for *The Circle* newsletter are due on the 18<sup>th</sup> of every month (except July). Submissions received after this deadline may appear in other applicable St. John's communications and in the following month's newsletter.

When submitting articles, please include <u>complete</u> information such as date, time, location, and how to sign up for events (including links and QR codes to forms). Images are welcome but should be photos taken around St. John's or posters created by the submitter—not stock images or any images downloaded from the Internet which St. John's is not licensed to use.

If you have any questions about St. John's communications, please contact our administrator, Sonya Sowards, at <a href="mailto:office@stjohnphoenixville.org">office@stjohnphoenixville.org</a> or (610) 933-3947 ext. 2.

## 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.

## **Kid-Friendly Worship Resources**

We have children's **worship bags** available to use during services.

We also have **children's bulletins/activity sheets** available on the "triangle table."

The **nursery** is open on Sunday mornings during church for children who may need a break/ extra care/etc.

Please **ask an usher** for help finding these resources! We welcome and celebrate all the ways children participate in our community.

### Communion Records and Prayer Requests

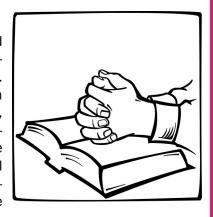


Our constitution defines members eligible to vote at regular meetings of the church as those who "shall have communed in this congregation and shall have made a contri-

bution of record" in the calendar year. Your contribution is recorded when it includes your name and/or envelope number. To ensure that your communion is recorded, please fill out the "Record of Communion and/or Prayer Request" card at least once a year. Communion cards can be found in the pew racks at the end of each pew. The card may also be used for prayer requests, address changes, questions, or comments. If you are worshiping exclusively from home, please contact Sonya Sowards with prayer requests and worship dates.

### **Prayer Chain**

Many folks have expressed interest in being more involved in our prayer ministry. In addition to weekly bulletin and email announcements, we also have two active prayer chains. First, a phone chain and second, an email chain. If you wish to be added to either of these, please let Sonya know.





There are so many ways to use the gifts God has given you at St. John's! We always need:

- Communion bread bakers
- ushers
- communion assistants/lectors
- assisting ministers
- live stream staff ("Stream Team")
- Committee members
- Teachers
- 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 and committees can also be found on the last page of this newsletter.

## 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 30<sup>th</sup>). 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.

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



#### **Thrivent Action Team Grants**

Thrivent members are eligible to apply for two Action Team Grants each year to benefit their church. St. John's members Mike & Cathy Kahl routinely obtain grants for the church and have provided a helpful step-by-step guide:

First, you must have a specific project in mind. You will also have to give an estimate of the number of people that might participate and when the project will be completed. The project should have something to do with bringing people into our organization or furthering our ministries.

Once you have the above information, log in to your account at thrivent.com.

Go to the bottom of the page to the Noah section. Click on Thrivent action teams.

Choose "apply now" on the first page and then "apply now" again.

On the next page, click "begin application." You have an option to get advertising materials and even T-shirts for your action team if you want them.

The money arrives fairly quickly in the form of a Visa card. Use this card for purchases related to your project.

When the project is finished, log in again and report that fact.

Special projects pop up from time to time at St. John's for which these cards could be used. If you'd like ideas for the use of your grant, contact our Administrator, Sonya Sowards, at <a href="mailto:office@stjohnphoenixville.org">office@stjohnphoenixville.org</a> or (610) 933-3947, ext. 2, or speak to a staff member, Committee chair, or Councilmember.

### 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!

**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.

## July 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
30 9am Holy Communion	1 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Stephen Ministry	2	7pm Alanon	6:30pm Kiwanis 7pm Naranon	5 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
7 9am Holy Communion	10am MAEVE Moms Mingle 11am Alanon Family Group	6:45pm Parent Grief Support Group	7pm Alanon	7pm Naranon	8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
9am Holy Communion	15 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Stephen Ministry	16	7pm Alanon	Circle deadline 6:30pm Klwanis 7pm Naranon 8:15pm Naranon Support	St. Peter's lunch 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
21 9am Holy Communion ASP trip	ASP trip 11am Alanon Family Group	ASP trip 10am Mom's Mingle 6:45pm Parent Grief Support Group 7pm Fellowship Committee	ASP trip 7pm Alanon	25 ASP trip 7pm Naranon	ASP trip 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	ASP trip Spm Evening Light (w/communion)
28 9am Holy Communion	29 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	30	7pm Alanon	6:30pm Kiwanis 7pm Naranon	8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5pm Evening Light (w/communion)

## August 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
9am Holy Communion	29 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	30	7pm Alanon	6:30pm Kiwanis 7pm Naranon	8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
9am Holy Communion	10:15am Staff 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry	6:30pm Faith Formation Committee 7:30pm Worship & Music	7 7pm Alanon	7pm Naranon	8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
9am Holy Communion	10am MAEVE Moms Mingle 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Church Council	13 6:45pm Parent Grief Support Group	7pm Alanon	6:30pm Kiwanis 7pm Naranon 8:15pm Naranon Support	St. Peter's lunch 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
18 Circle deadline 9am Holy Communion	19 11am Alanon Family Group 5pm Stewardship Committee 7pm Stephen Ministry	20	7pm Alanon	7pm Naranon	5:30pm Summer Taligate Party 8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
9am Holy Communion	26 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	10am Mom's Mingle 6:45pm Parent Grief Support Group 7pm Fellowship Committee	7pm Alanon	7pm Naranon	8pm Narcotics Anonymous	5pm Evening Light (w/communion)

## July 2024 Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday	
Rhett Grejdus's birthday	Nancy Wilkinson's birthday Rick Kramer's birthday	Dylan Oszeyczik's birthday Robb Frees's birthday	3 Cindy Riley's birthday Gianna Bilss's birthday	Amanda Westerman's birthday Kurt Seldel's birthday Travis Brown's birthday	Dennis Duerr's birthday Heather Thompson's birthday	Aaron Sifford's birthday	6
7 Alian Moreland's birthday	Dick Kunsch Sr's birthday Genevieve Gombarick's birthday Layla Murphy's birthday	9 Bill Starling's birthday David and Danlelle Reading's anniversary	Greg and Annie Krueger's anniversary Ian and Val Kramer's anniversary Shiriey Platzer's birthday	Ashley Onder's birthday	Pat Renninger's birthday Trevor O'Nelli's birthday	Leslie Aharonian's birthday	3
14 Ethan Walls's birthday	Margaret Walker's birthday	16	Dylan Grejdus's birthday Paul Deichmann's birthday	Donna Bergey's birthday	Atea McArel's birthday Pamela Freehafer's birthday	Mea Borzumati's birthday	D
Dawn Platchek's birthday	Chloe Kunsch's birthday Sue Starling's birthday	Bryan Waiters's birthday	Jeff and Jodi VanDerveer's anniversary Olesya Sittkowski's birthday Oliver Skiffington's birthday	25 Charlotte Reading's birthday	26 Elisa Snyder's birthday	Nathan Romano's birthday	7
28 Carol Kumar's birthday	29	30 Beth Leong's birthday Dale and Jean Herbranson's anniversary Joe and Kim Themens's anniversary	31 Bryce Aaronson's birthday John and Heather Yonosh's anniversary	Andrew Starling's birthday Jim and Marti Steiner's anniversary	Anneleise Sifford's birthday Julia Gombarick's birthday Kurt Kunsch's birthday Laura Gombarick's birthday	Brittney Waiters's birthday Leliani Ash's birthday Tracy Stewart's birthday	3

## August 2024 Birthdays and Anniversaries

Constant	Mandan	Tuesday	Wedeeder	Thursday	Fairless	Catuadan
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
28 Carol Kumar's birthday	29	30 Beth Leong's birthday Dale and Jean Herbranson's anniversary Joe and Kim Themens's anniversary	Bryce Aaronson's birthday John and Heather Yonosh's anniversary	Andrew Starling's birthday Jim and Marti Steiner's anniversary	Anneleise Sifford's birthday Julia Gombarick's birthday Kurt Kunsch's birthday Laura Gombarick's birthday	Brittney Walters's birthday Lellani Ash's birthday Tracy Stewart's birthday
Kimberly DiGiola's birthday Mitchell Reading's birthday	5 Bruce Wallace's birthday C.J. Bomberger's birthday Janet Onder's birthday Mo O'Nelli's birthday	Allie Platchek's birthday Detidev and Kathy Tauber's anniversary Rachael Aaronson and Jared Summers's anniversary	7 Betty Hans's birthday Chuck Lledike's birthday Donald and Loretta Bechtel's anniversary	8 Ava DeMutis's birthday Landon Themens's birthday	Shelley Saeger's birthday Sydney Scavello's birthday	10
Cheryl Kenyon's birthday	12 Evie Hicks's birthday Ryan and Liz Spurlock's anniversary	Alexander Walls's birthday Jesse Carey's birthday Joan Tulish's birthday Lynn Titus's birthday Paul and Cindy Gadzicki's anniversary	Grace Supplee's birthday	Kelly Gallagher's birthday	16 Kevin Wimbie's birthday	17
David Schumacher's birthday Russ Crouthamel's birthday	Dick and Judy Woistenholme's anniversary	Caitlin Krueger's birthday Nabil Abraham's birthday Ray and Sue Lisiewski's anniversary	21	Jantzen Hawkins's birthday Ryleigh Free's birthday	Jenn Lowe's birthday	Jason and Kim Birdseli's anniversary

### St. John's Lutheran Church Council Meeting Minutes May 13, 2024

Attendees:					T		
Kyle Oszeyczik	Р	Mitch Reading	Р	Dale Herbranson	Р	Stephen Drewes	Α
Kelly Gallagher	Р	Janet Gerner	Р	Sue Starling	Р	TBD	
Aimee Hillegas	P	Kate Hicks	P	Jeanne	Р	Mike Kahl	P
				Schanzenbach			
Pastor Crouthamel	Р						
Guests:							
Sonya Sowards	Р	Tom Snyder	Р	Molly Oladunjoye	Р		

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by Aimee; Pastor led with an opening exercise on gifts.

#### Prior Meeting Minutes

Motion by Mitch, Second by Janet to accept the April minutes as presented; motion carried with one abstention.

Motion by Mike, Second by Dale to accept the Kitchen Renovation Special Meeting minutes as presented; motion carried.

#### Staff Reports

Motion by Sue, Second by Kyle to accept the April Staff Reports; motion carried.

#### Committee Reports

Council reviewed the following Committee Reports:

- Finance Committee met 04/22/24 accepted as written.
  - o Motion to approve the Finance Report by Jeanne; seconded by Janet; motion carried.
- Electronics Committee from 04/21/24 accepted as written.
- Faith Formation from 05/07/24—accepted as written.
- Property Committee from 05/06/24 accepted as written.
  - The Sanctuary AC had an issue with bad compressor; all under warranty, replacement parts are in and should be replaced soon.
  - o Kley Hall HVAC upgrade Have negotiated the reduction in contract due to misunderstanding with original contractor. Have received three estimates for an independent system for KH. Total cost is still within the summary amount originally approved by the congregation, so no further meeting is necessary. Meeting Rooms will continue to have window ACs (new ones have been purchased). Bobbi presented the plans as a courtesy to the Council.
  - Kitchen
    - Congregational approval to renovate the kitchen was received.
    - 50% down is needed for the equipment (~\$11K). Bobbi asked Council as a courtesy to spend this money.
    - "Property Projects" will be a new line on the financial statements for kitchen funding.
  - Motion from committee: That Memorial Wreath funds in the amount of \$1000 in memory of Clarence Carl and \$1000 in memory of Douglas Carl be allocated to help pay for safety improvements identified by the chief of Valley Forge Volunteer Fire Company.

These include but may not be limited to emergency lights, smoke/CO2 detectors, exit lights, and a Knox Box. Motion carried.

- Worship and Music Committee from 05/07/24 accepted as written.
- Social Ministry Committee from 05/01/24 accepted as written.
- Fellowship Committee no minutes submitted.
- Columbarium Committee did not meet.
- Executive Committee did not meet.
- Stewardship Committee from 04/15/24 accepted as written.
- Welcome Team Committee from 05/01/24 accepted as written.
- Green Team did not meet. Synod is going to forward information to the team.
- Kitchen Task Force no new meetings notes.
  - Congregational approval for renovation received in special meeting May 4/5. See additional notes above.

Motion by Mitch, second by Jeanne to accept committee reports; motion carried.

#### Old Business

- Lock-up signup sent around.
- Inter-church Muhlenberg Committee next meeting in May.
- New Council Member to replace Elisa no further names suggested.
- Council Retreat seems like June 1 is the best date thus far; 9-Noon.

#### **New Business**

- Key lockbox agreed that only staff members would have the locks. Intended to help with lockouts.
- Application for confirmed membership for the five confirmands Evan Becker, Katelyn Blattner, Ryan DesMarais, Henry Duerr and Brett Gallagher. Motion by Mitch, second by Dale. Motion carried.
- Revised staff job descriptions approval—motion by Dale, second by Mitch; motion carried
- One scholarship application received from Zach Brown. Last year Council voted to make scholarships \$2000 each. Scholarship committee submitted motion to approve the scholarship. Motion carried.

Aimee adjourned the meeting at 8:14; meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer. Next regularly scheduled meeting will be June 10th, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Sue Starling Church Council Secretary 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**

**Lead Pastor** 

The Rev. K. Russell Crouthamel Pastoral Associate:

The Rev. Thomas Kochenderfer, Jr.

**Director of Music:** 

F. Thomas Snyder III

Organist & Pianist:

John A. Quinn III

Director of Children's, Youth & Family Ministries

Molly Oladunjoye

Parish Administrator:

Sonya K. Sowards

Sexton:

Mark Yanchek, Jr.

**Nursery Coordinator:** 

Arlene Hudak

#### **CHURCH COUNCIL**

President:

Aimee Hillegas

**Vice President:** 

Kelly Gallagher

Secretary:

Sue Starling

Treasurer:

Shirley Platzer

Assistant Treasurer:

Don Titus

**Financial Recording Secretary:** 

Mary Heiser

Fund 3 Secretary:

Kevin Gallagher

**Executive Committee:** 

Dale Herbranson

leanne Schanzenbach

#### **Other Members of Council:**

lanet Gerner

Mike Kahl

Kate Hicks

Kyle Oszeyczik

Mitch Reading

Stephen Drewes

#### **Stephen Ministry Leader:**

Linda Landis — (610) 933-9544

#### **COMMITTEES**

#### Columbarium:

Bill Starling, Chair Dale Herbranson, Council Rep.

#### **Electronics:**

Bill Schoellkopf, Chair Dale Herbranson, Council Rep.

#### **Executive:**

Mitch Reading, Chair

#### **Faith Formation:**

Erica Reading, Chair Kelly Gallagher & Kate Hicks Council Reps.

#### Fellowship:

Sandra Zimmermann, Chair Sue Starling, Council Rep.

#### Finance:

Jack Ertell, Chair Mitch Reading & Jeanne Schanzenbach Council Reps.

#### **Mutual Ministry:**

Kyle Oszeyczik, Council Rep.

#### **Property:**

Bobbi Riley, Chair Mike Kahl, Council Rep.

#### **Social Ministry:**

Janet Gerner, Chair & Council Rep.

#### Stewardship:

Stephen Drewes, Council Rep.

#### **Welcoming Team:**

Kate Hicks, Council Rep.

#### Worship and Music:

Jean Herbranson, Chair Elisa Khan, Council Rep.

#### Office Assistants:

June Henzie Joan Carl Pat Renninger

#### The Circle Editor:

Sonya K. Sowards

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#### **Pastoral Acts**

#### **New Members**

Jacob Durflinger
Marc, Laura, Elise & Colin Staudenmaier
Jim & Kathy Kelsh
The Rev. Ghislaine Cotnoir
June 9, 2024

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## 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



Summer 2024