

The Circle

October 2024



Dear Friends in Christ,

As I said last month, we're going to be looking at different practices of discipleship over the course of the year. We'll be looking at a different practice each month, with some time off around Christmas and Holy Week and Easter, to allow space for those holy days. The practices we'll be looking at 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. Last month, we started looking at daily prayer. This month, we're focused on "growth in giving (to the tithe or beyond)." I know for a lot of people, talking about money (especially talking about money in the church!) is a source of anxiety and discomfort. But it's still an important thing to talk about, because financial stewardship is an important aspect of our lives of faith.

St. John's Lutheran Church does what we do because of your financial support. All of our ministries—VBS, Christian education, worship, music, helping to feed and support people in need in Phoenixville and beyond, offering a welcoming and safe space to twelve-step groups, community organizations, and scouting groups—all of those things are part of the church's mission of living, growing & sharing in God's love through Jesus Christ, and your financial support enables us to do them.

Even things that don't seem directly connected to the mission and the work we do—things like utility bills, air-conditioning repair, office supplies, clearing the parking lots of snow—all directly impact our mission as a congregation. Without those boring-but-necessary items, we wouldn't have a welcoming and safe place for the community to gather; we wouldn't have a space for music and worship and Christian education; we wouldn't be as able to share God's love with one another or the community. Everything that we do as a congregation, we're able to do because of your financial support. On behalf of St. John's Lutheran church, thank you for continuing to support the congregation.

But generosity is also part of discipleship, which means it's not just about how your generosity impacts the church: your generosity also impacts you. Jesus said, "Where your treasure is, there your heart will be also." Generous giving helps to strengthen the connection between the church and the giver. Generosity is also a sign of a person's relationship with God, and supporting the mission and ministry of the church is a tangible way to live that relationship out.

We're going to hear more in the coming weeks about those things, especially as we get closer to the time that our annual response campaign will begin. But for now, and as we continue to talk about giving and generosity, please take some time—both in discernment and planning, and in prayer—to consider how God is calling you to be a generous giver. And again, thank you for your generosity in supporting the work that we do here as St. John's Lutheran Church

In Christ,

Pastor Russ



FELIX HELL
Concert Organist
October 13th, 4:00 p.m.

On Sunday, October 13th, at 4:00 p.m., St. John's is honored to present concert organist Felix Hell. Mr. Hell, a native of Germany, is one of the most sought-after concert organists in the world. He has been featured as a recitalist and concerto soloist in more than 850 concerts throughout North America, Europe, Asia and Australia. The American Organist Guild raved that he "sets standards that older and honored players would struggle to equal."

Felix Hell is known for his diverse and innovative programming, drawing upon a repertoire encompassing five centuries. Furthermore, he has received global recognition for his marathon performances of the entire organ works of J.S. Bach, which encompass about 250 compositions and close to 20 hours of performance time. He has since performed the complete Bach cycle four times, most recently in in 2013 in Seoul, Korea.



Mr. Hell holds positions of Organ Artist Associate at Saint Peter's Lutheran Church in Manhattan, Distinguished Artist in Residence at the United Lutheran Seminary in Gettysburg, and Adjunct Professor of Organ at the Sunderman Conservatory in Gettysburg. In 2011, Felix Hell was appointed Distinguished Visiting Artist at Kosin University in Busan, South Korea.

Felix Hell's discography includes 10 CDs. His most recent recording features music for Organ and Symphony Orchestra by Barber, Guilmant and Jongen. His recordings are frequently broadcast throughout the United States and across the world; he has appeared on television globally.

His project "Music Across America" allows him to travel with his own Touring Organ, performing organ concertos and recitals in spaces that do not house pipe organs, liberating the instrument from its historic confines.

Mr. Hell is an avid supporter of new music for organ and frequently collaborates with composers.

Felix Hell studied at the Juilliard School in New York, the Curtis Institute of Music in Philadelphia (BM), and the Peabody Institute in Baltimore (AD, MM, DMA). In 2007, he received Johns Hopkins University's prestigious Outstanding Graduate Award.

The concert is part of the 2024-2025 concert series at St. John's and is offered as musical outreach to the community. No tickets are required but a free-will offering, with a suggested \$10 donation, will be received.



Join Our Christmas Choir!

At 7:30 p.m., on Wednesdays beginning October 2nd, the Adult Choir rehearses 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.

First Bible Sunday—September 29th at 10:15am (Classes on October 6th, 13th, 20th)

Join us for First Bible Sunday on September 29th as we celebrate a special milestone for our 3rd graders, who will receive their very own Bibles during the service! This marks the beginning of their journey into deeper Bible study, with classes offered on October 6th, 13th, and 20th during the Sunday school hour. If you'd like to sign your child up for these classes, please email Molly at mollyo@stjohnphoenixville.org. Don't miss this meaningful opportunity to support our young ones as they grow in their faith!



Muhlenberg Parish Joint Service and Rise Against Hunger Event September 29th, 9:30 a.m.



Centennial, Zion, and St. Peter's Lutheran Churches are hosting a combined service as the Muhlenberg Parish at Centennial Lutheran Church, 1330 Hares Hill Road, Kimberton at 9:30 a.m. on September 29th. After the service, everyone will go to Zion of Spring City at 39 Bonnie Brae Road, Spring City and work together on the Rise Against Hunger mission project to package 10,000 meals for food insecure communities around the world.

While our 9 a.m. faith formation classes and 10:15 a.m. service will still take place at St. John's on this date, St. John's members who wish to attend the joint service will be welcome! You are also welcome to simply go over to Zion after church at St. John's to help with the packing. Use this code to sign up to help or donate.

Faith Formation for Adults Sunday mornings at 9 a.m.

Opportunities for faith formation for adults takes many forms. **Bible Study**, held in the Fireside Room and led by Linda Landis, will be studying different women mentioned in the Bible. In October, their focus will be on Puah, Shiphrah, Esther, and Priscilla. **Faith Life** normally gathers in Meeting Room 1 (to the left of the stage in Kley Hall) and explores current events in relation to faith. **Happy Hour**, primarily a group of parents, meets in the Eisenhower Room to support each other. Both Faith Life and Happy Hour will be joining the **Lutheran 101** class in September & October, led by Pr. Russ in the Eisenhower Room. The **Sunday Morning Book Club** meets in the Pastor's office and will be reading and discussing "The Last Dress from Paris" by Jade Beer and "Homecoming" by Kate Morton in October. All adult classes begin at 9 a.m. (or shortly after the children's opening time) and welcome and encourage you to try them out!



Movie Night

Now October 5th at 6:00 p.m.

Join us for a fun-filled Family Movie Night! Bring the whole family and settle in for a movie, popcorn, and a cozy evening together. Pizza and refreshments will also be provided. It's the perfect way to relax, enjoy some quality time, and connect with other families in our church community. We can't wait to see you there! If your family has any movie suggestions, please let Molly know. We're open to ideas that everyone will enjoy. To sign up, email Molly or go to. <https://forms.gle/sLUkpQKHkfc1qAN7>



WELCA will meet on Tuesday, October 22nd at 10:30 a.m. in Eisenhower. Watch the weekly announcements for more information.

We will again be collecting items for the children at Silver Springs Martin Luther School. Watch for the list of requested items.

One of the WELCA fundraisers will be RADA Cutlery. More information to follow.

Many thanks to everyone who supports WELCA. We appreciate the many ways you help our ministry. Keep those cards, tote bags, and toiletries, etc. coming!

Women of the ELCA



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 dessert.

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.

Reformation Celebration

October 26th & 27th

Reformation Day will be observed at St. John's on October 26th and 27th. Please wear red to celebrate. On October 31, 1517, Martin Luther posted his 95 theses on the door of All Saints' Church in Wittenberg, Germany. This action, a protest against the sale of church indulgences and other church practices, began the Reformation movement and the Church continues to reform even after 507 years.

Join our Welcoming Team

The Welcoming Team is responsible for helping potential new members be introduced to St John's Church and congregation as well as supporting them as sponsors. The team should be available for questions, and try to promote activities and opportunities at St John's.

Goals for welcoming team:

1. Greet new members.
2. Support newcomers in Lutheran education classes as sponsors. Act as a source for St John's background info and solicit involvement in church activities. If new members decide to join the congregation, ensure the new member information form is completed and send it to Sonya.
3. Plan and execute a new members reception after the welcoming service.
4. Plan and organize external opportunities for community recruitment to St John's.

If you're interested in joining please contact Kate Hicks at katehicks1921@gmail.com.



THANK YOU!

Thank you to the members of our Kitchen Task Force for the phenomenal job coordinating the renovation of our kitchen! And THANK YOU to everyone from St. John's who donated to the project!

Kitchen Task Force members were Bobbi Riley, Stephen Drewes, Jim Taylor, Mike Kahl, Lynn Titus, Susan Schumacher and Sandra Zimmermann, with much help from our wonderful Property Committee and John Dorward, among others.

Our renovated kitchen will allow us to engage in more feeding ministries for our community and will also be a blessing at our own fellowship events. Thank you!

Lutheran World Relief Backpacks

Supplies needed by October 6th

Sunday school classes will pack backpacks for Lutheran World Relief on October 13th. We still need 569 notebooks, 138 rulers, 112 pencil sharpeners, 69 scissors, 464 number two pencils, 125 boxes of crayons, and 168 erasers! Please drop supplies in the box in the narthex. No time to shop? Donate through our website, using the link in our weekly email scanning the QR code in the bulletin—or just send a check. Thank you!!

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
August 12, 2024**

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

The meeting was called to order at 7:03 pm by Aimee; Molly led an opening prayer, question, Bible Verse and discussion.

Prior Meeting Minutes

Motion by Janet, Second by Mitch to accept the minutes; motion passed.

Staff Reports

Motion by Dale, Second by Kyle to accept the Summer Staff Reports; motion passed.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee did not meet.

Council reviewed the following Committee Reports:

- Electronics Committee – did not meet
- Faith Formation from August 6, 2024 – accepted as written
 - Confirmation changes to enhance program – will meet 6:30 pm on Sunday evenings and will include a final piece to be a church service learning project chosen by each student to choose a mentor, work on and write a report. High Schoolers can come meet at 6:30 pm on Sundays as well.
- Property Committee from August 5, 2024 - accepted as written
- Kitchen Task Force
 - Request for accounting of Kitchen project to be included in their report – how much has been spent so far (in coordination with S. Platzer). \$48 K has been raised and a few more pledges are expected.
- Worship and Music Committee from June 23 and August 6, 2024 – accepted as written.
- Social Ministry Committee – did not meet
- Fellowship Committee – did not meet
- Columbarium Committee – did not meet
- Executive Committee – did not meet
- Stewardship Committee – did not meet
- Welcome Team Committee – June 12, 2024
- Green Team – June 26, 2024

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

Old Business

- Muhlenberg Parish
 - Other Churches are doing a combined service on September 29th. We have a baptism on this day, so will not participate.

- St. John's is invited to a Rise Against Hunger service event after the Sept 29th combined service.
- For any month with 5 Sundays, they suggest a combined Muhlenberg Parish Service on that 5th Sunday

New Business

New Council Members

- Discussion on contacting a potential candidate

Fellowship Time

- Start Coffee Hour on October 13th, sponsored by Church Council.
- Sonya will create a Sign Up Genius for the remainder of the year for the second Sunday of each month.

Janet made the motion to adjourn the meeting; Dale seconded; meeting ended with the Lord's Prayer. Next regular meeting is September 9, 2024.

Respectfully submitted,

Janet Gerner

Church Council Secretary

Caring for Creation: What We Can Do at St. John's

Caring for God's creation is an ever-evolving topic in this world, especially with each new natural or human-made disaster. As stewards of this world, we are called to care for the earth and examine our behaviors toward creation. While we need to take from the land for food and sustainability, we also need to be careful that we maintain good stewardship and do not exploit the wonderful things the earth provides.

Used Shoe Collection

Our Green Team is partnering with Keystone Green to collect used sneakers and shoes which will be picked up at St. John's and sent to developing countries. In turn, Keystone Green will compensate St. John's for the shoes and the monies will be used for additional "Green Projects."



By recycling textiles and shoes, Keystone Green helps reduce the amount of clothing and shoes that end up in landfills, which is significant since Americans throw away nearly 85% of their clothes and shoes. The collected items are either donated to local non-profits or sent to developing countries where there is a high demand for used clothing and shoes

Shortly, you'll find this container ← in the glass entrance way by Kley Hall. Bring your clean, dry sneakers and shoes (no high heels) and support the Green Team's mission of "Caring for Creation." Thank you!

October 2024

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Rise Against Hunger- Muhlenberg Parish 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Holy Communion-First Bibles received 2pm PCO Rehearsal	30 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	1 6pm Cadette Girl Scouts 6:30pm Faith Formation Committee 6:45pm Parent Grief Support Group 7:30pm Worship & Music	2 4pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	3 6:30pm Kiwanis 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal	4	5 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 6pm Movie Night
6 9am Faith Formation- First Bible 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm PCO Rehearsal 6:30pm Youth Group/Confirmation	7 10:15am Staff 11am Alanon Family Group 6pm Cadette Troop #42024 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry	8 6:30pm Welcoming Team 6:45pm Parent Grief Support Group	9 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	10 6pm Brownie Troop #4094 6pm Girl Scouts #4432 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal	11	12 9am ALCM Workshop 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
13 9am Faith Formation- First Bible/Lutheran World Relief 10:15am Holy Communion 2:30pm Girl Scouts 40441 and 4041 3pm Girl Scouts 4pm Felix Hell, World- renowned Concert Organist 6:30pm Youth Group/Confirmation	14 10am MAEVE Moms Mingle 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Church Council	15 6:45pm Parent Grief Support Group	16 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	17 6:30pm Kiwanis 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal 8:15pm Naranon Support	18 Circle deadline St. Peter's lunch	19 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)
20 9am Faith Formation- First Bible 9:45am Fellowship Time 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm PCO Rehearsal 5pm Crockpot Cook- off	21 11am Alanon Family Group 5pm Stewardship Committee 6pm Cadette Troop #42024 7pm Green Team 7pm Stephen Ministry	22 10am Mom's Mingle 10:30am WELCA 6:45pm Parent Grief Support Group 7pm Fellowship Committee	23 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	24 6pm Brownie Troop #4094 6pm Girl Scouts #4432 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal	25	26 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)- Reformation 5pm PATB Pasta Party
27 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Holy Communion- Reformation 2:30pm Girl Scouts 40441 and 4041 3pm Girl Scouts 3pm Trunk or Treat	28 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	29 6:45pm Parent Grief Support Group	30 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	31 6:45pm Children's Handbells Rehearsal 7pm Naranon 7:30pm Adult Handbells Rehearsal	1	2 5pm Evening Light (w/communion)

October 2024—birthdays and anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
29 Allyssa Andrews's birthday Courtney Morgan's birthday Julie Andrews's birthday Kent and Jennifer Brown's anniversary Megan Tribuno's birthday	30 Brian and Amy Becker's anniversary	1	2 Isaac Henderson's birthday Jim Taylor's birthday	3	4 Garrett and Margit Grejdus's anniversary	5
6 Karen Warren's birthday Sam Fryer's birthday	7 Gabrielle Perrotto's birthday Jennifer Lambert's birthday	8 Jon and Kate Hicks's anniversary	9 Avalée Granacher-Bungay's birthday Christopher and Mary Scavello's anniversary Simon DiGioia's birthday	10 Beth Kramer's birthday Colin Staudenmaier's birthday Courtney Wilkinson's birthday Denise Longbine's birthday Kelly LeMarbe's birthday Larry and Kim Fetters's anniversary Robbie McMahon's birthday	11 Peg Groening's birthday Stephen and Cindy Riley's anniversary Wynne Salvás's birthday	12 Brian Schanzenbach's birthday Shari Bradley's birthday Stephen and Jen Drewes's anniversary William and Barbara Sell's anniversary
13 Allison Kramer's birthday Donald and Shirley Platzer's anniversary Joe Muller's birthday Joey Gombarick's birthday John Freehafer's birthday Nadine Hilvick's birthday Ron and Rebecca Stevens's anniversary	14 Glynys LaBoon's birthday Jim and Claudine Niness's anniversary Kristin and Lisa McGregor's anniversary Lyndsey Williams's birthday	15 Gail Doebling's birthday Simon Khan's birthday Stephen and Ashleigh Melton's anniversary	16 Keith Kenyon's birthday Nicholas Stotler's birthday Zach Pekofsky's birthday	17 Greg Krueger's birthday Mark Buckwalter's birthday Zander Cummins's birthday	18 Erin Fazzari's birthday	19 Sarah Smith's birthday
20 Connor Strauss's birthday Faye Donovan's birthday Isaac Leong's birthday	21 Kyle Oszeyczik's birthday	22 Amelia Hicks's birthday George Wilkinson's birthday Justin Rawlins's birthday Nora Strauss's birthday	23 Nicholas DeWolf's birthday William Sell's birthday	24 A. Lee Dalasio's birthday Lisa McGregor's birthday	25 Melissa Rutherford's birthday Ron Williams and Venus Hadeed's anniversary TJ Babinchak's birthday	26 Mark Gemer's birthday Richard Ash's birthday
27 Iain Riley's birthday Lizzy Strunk's birthday Paul and Mary Miller's anniversary	28 Dale Herbranson's birthday Harper Themens's birthday Mike and Maryanne Mara's anniversary	29 Beth Snyder's birthday	30 Gracie Themens's birthday Miranda McMahon's birthday Noah Deichmann's birthday	31 Alexandra Perrotto's birthday Edwin Walters's birthday Terri McDonnell's birthday	1 Kim-Eric Williams's birthday Lisa Wimple's birthday	2 Iain and Bridget Riley's anniversary

People of God Involved in God's Work October Worship Staff

Acolytes

6 TBD
13 TBD
20 TBD
27 TBD

Altar Guild

6 Nancy Cressman & Janet Ertell
13 Donna Anderson & Cathy Garrett
20 Andrea Hart & Jean Herbranson
27 Betty Hans & Jean Herbranson

Assisting Minister

6 Bill Starling
13 Tom Snyder
20 Ron Stevens
27 Walt Deichmann

Communion Assistant/Lector

6 Mitch Reading
13 Lynn Titus
20 Deb Ahola
27 Mimi Woods

Counters

6 Jack & Janet Ertell; Donna Anderson
13 Heather Yonosh & Jeanne Schanzenbach
20 Mary Heiser; Mike & Cathy Kahl
27 Stephen & Jen Drewes

Evening Light Assistant

6 Sandy Momyer
13 Rich Latella
20 Sandy Momyer
27 Shirley Platzer

Fellowship Time

6 Church Council

Lock-Up

6 Aimee Hillegas
13 Jeanne Schanzenbach
20 Mike Kahl
27 Kyle Oszeyczik

Stream Team

6 Aimee Hillegas; Paul Miller
13 Josh Romano; Dale Herbranson
20 Dale Herbranson; Paul Miller
27 Dale Herbranson; Paul Miller

Ushers

6 Sue Starling & Barry Church
13 Don Titus & Cathy Garrett
20 Mike & Cathy Kahl
27 Donna Anderson & Nancy Cressman

Crockpot Cook-Off

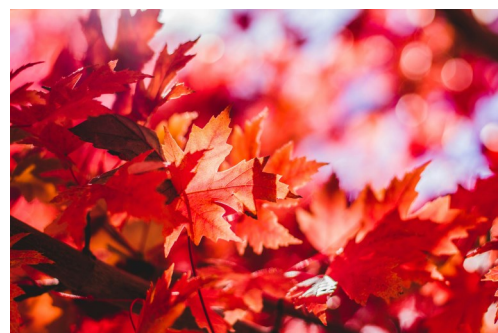
October 20th at 5:00 p.m.

Join us for the 4th annual Crockpot cook-off! Bring an appetizer, main dish, side dish or dessert in a Crockpot OR join us to taste and vote for the winning dish. Crockpot set-up begins at 4:30 p.m. All attendees are asked to RSVP by clicking the link in the weekly email, scanning the code in your bulletin, or you can just contact Kelly Gallagher by emailing kmgandbc@hotmail.com.



'Tis the month of multi colors
Crisp the air fruit ripe for scamping
Summer's burst of glory frost nips
The air leaves of multi-hue color
The sky autumn gives a taste
Of colder air summers' touch of
Winter soon sun's warmth turns
To chilly days come enjoy the
Fruits of autumn 'ere frosty
Air nips one's nose multi colors
Delight the eye come enjoy
Nature's glorious display

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 18th 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 complete 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 office@stjohnphoenixville.org or (610) 933-3947 ext. 2.

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

RECORD OF COMMUNION AND/OR PRAYER REQUEST

I/we took communion (date & time):
 9P
 10:15a
 9:00a (summer)
 other date & time _____

I'm a visitor



Name(s): _____ Env. # _____

New or change in contact info? If so, print corrected information below:

Prayer request(s): _____

Please place this card in the offering plate or hand it in on the triangle kiosk in the narthex (lobby) when you leave. THANKS!

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 contribution 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 worshipping exclusively from home, please contact Sonya Sowards with prayer requests and worship dates.

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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.



Summary Financial Report as of August 31, 2024

	Monthly		Year-to-Date	
	Budget	Actual	Budget	Actual
Income:				
Envelope Giving	\$ 27,995	\$ 21,277	\$ 223,956	\$ 220,187
Other Income	3,791	2,908	30,334	27,160
	\$ 31,786	\$ 24,185	\$ 254,290	\$ 247,347
Expenses	\$ 39,745	\$ 34,049	\$ 317,961	\$ 299,107
Income (Deficit)	\$ (7,959)	\$ (9,864)	\$ (63,671)	\$ (51,760)

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 Yancheck, 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
 Jeanne Schanzenbach

Other Members of Council:

Janet 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

Office Assistants:
 June Henzie
 Joan Carl
 Pat Renninger

The Circle Editor:
 Sonya K. Sowards

Updated Contact information

Jack & Janet Ertell
 201 Birch Lane
 Royersford, PA 19468

Pastoral Acts

Atea McArel
 September 20, 2024

Inside this issue:

Pastor's Note	1
Felix Hell Concert / Christmas Choir	2
First Bible / Rise Against Hunger / Adult Faith Formation / Movie Night	3
WELCA / Pasta Party	4
Reformation / Welcoming Team / Thank You Kitchen Task Force / LWR Backpacks	5
Council Minutes	6-7
Caring for Creation	7
Calendars	8-9
Worship Staff / Crockpot Cook-off / Poetry	10
Communication Guidelines / Kid's Worship Resources / Communion Records & Prayer Requests / Donating Stock / Financials	11
Stewardship Opportunities	12
Staff / Updated Contact Info / Pastoral Acts	cover

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



October 2024