

The Circle

May 2026



Dear Friends in Christ,

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

I love celebrating Easter, even the later weeks of the season, after the lilies have been taken from the chancel to people's flowerbeds and the festive music has dimmed down, are still joyous and exciting. I know there are a lot of things going on in the world, locally and across the nation, and around the world, that are cause for worry and fear and apprehension for a lot of people, and that those things can make celebrating Easter challenging. But celebrating Easter isn't meant to ignore or hide from the evil in the world: our Easter celebrations, and the work that we do as a church, are because of, and in response to the evil in the world.

We live in a world marked by death, in a world where death (and all its attendant things like pain and fear and worry and struggle) have a lot of power in a lot of ways. But in that world marked by death, we know that death doesn't get the last word: God does. And in that world ruled by fear and hurt, we get to share comfort and hope, because we get to share that word of Jesus' resurrection in the world.



And we get to share that word of God's love in a lot of different ways. We celebrate as we gather for worship, certainly, as we shout "Christ is risen," as we remember our baptisms, as we celebrate that good news. But we also share that word of God's love through Christian education and faith formation, as we gather each week to teach and learn in Sunday school, and as we prepare for Vacation Bible School this summer. And we share it through acts of service to others. Last month, the Sunday school classes helped to assemble care kits for the Chester County SPCA; this month, the Sunday school classes are going to be putting together care packages for Good Samaritan Services and caring for creation

through an Earth Day Event. We're also collecting food and supplies for PACS and working with our Lutheran neighbors in the Muhlenberg Parish and other organizations to love and support our neighbors in a lot of different ways.

Those ways that I highlighted above are just a handful of the ways that St. John's and its members work to help love God and love our neighbors in the world. And they're just as much a celebration of Easter, and of Jesus' Resurrection, as are the things that we do in worship on Sunday mornings: they're ways that we get to celebrate and share God's love, even when the fear and uncertainty and evil in the world presses close. If you're interested in being a part of any of those ministries at St. John's, or if you're interested in learning more about other ministries like the St. Mary's Shelter meals or the Appalachia Service Project trip, please let me know! I'm excited to be able to share that Good News of God's love along with everyone from St. John's.

PLEASE NOTE: Our Sunday morning service time will change to **9:00 a.m. beginning May 24th** through September 6th.

In Christ,
Pastor Russ

St. John's Choir & Friends

On Sunday, May 3rd at 7:00 p.m., 60 singers from 20 area churches will join together in the 33rd annual St. John's Choir & Friends concert. This year's program features varied settings for choir, choir and organ, choir and piano, and choir, organ and brass quintet. The audience joins along in singing three glorious hymn settings for choir, organ, and brass. In addition, Kryos Brass, the faculty brass quintet from West Chester, will perform several selections.

Director of Music Tom Snyder conducts and accompaniment is provided by Organist John Quinn playing both piano and organ. Plan now to attend this fun-filled and inspiring concert. Come early as we anticipate a full house.

St. John's Choir & Friends 33rd Annual Concert

HYMNS, PSALMS, AND SPIRITUALS

**JOINED BY KYROS BRASS, FACULTY FROM WEST CHESTER UNIVERSITY
SINGERS FROM OVER 20 AREA CHURCHES
F. THOMAS SNYDER III - CONDUCTOR
JOHN A. QUINN III - ACCOMPANIST**



FREEWILL OFFERING: SUGGESTED DONATION \$10

**Sunday, May 3, 2026, 7:00 PM
St. John's Lutheran Church,
355 St. John's Circle,
Phoenixville, PA**



Help is needed for the St. John's Choir & Friends Supper

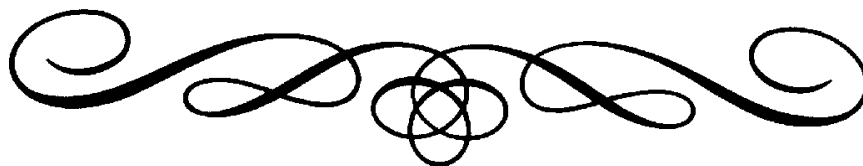
As part of the day's activities the Welcoming and Fellowship teams will be serving a light supper to the choir's participants. **Desserts are needed** and can be dropped off Sunday following worship.

In addition, help is needed to set up beginning at 4:30 p.m., serve at 5:30 p.m., and clean up at about 6:30 p.m.

Please let us know if you can prepare a dessert or otherwise assist by contacting Sonya or sending an email to office@stjohnphoenixville.org. Thanks!

Adult Faith Formation

Sunday morning groups for adults include **Happy Hour**, meeting in the Eisenhower Room—friendly chats while children are in Sunday school; **Faith Life**, meeting in Room 1 next to the stage—discussions about faith and recent media articles; **Bible Study** is meeting in the Fireside Room and studying the Book of Revelation; and **Sunday Morning Book Club**, meeting in Pastor Russ's office, is discussing "The Women" by Kristin Hannah. Join any of the four groups on Sundays at 9 a.m.





Mother's Day

ASP Car Wash!

May 17th, 8:30 a.m.-noon

Get your car sparkling clean while supporting a great cause! The youth of our congregation are hosting the annual ASP Car Wash Fundraiser on Sunday, May 17th from 8:30 a.m. to 12 p.m. in the back church parking lot. Every donation goes directly toward their upcoming mission trip with Appalachia Service Project, helping them grow in faith and service. Swing by, get a shine, and show your support—your generosity will go a long way! Come learn more about the great work St. John's provides during this weeklong mission. Can't make it and still want to contribute? Use the QR code or click the link to send in a donation.



[Youth Programs | St. John's Lutheran Church Phoenixville](#)

May is the gate
 To summer when
 Trees their leaves
 Do raise to golden skies
 Squirrels frolic rabbits
 Hop with joy for
 Summer's a time
 To enjoy life
 Summer's joy doth
 Banish winter's chill
 Margaret Walker

Mother's Day Collection for Good Samaritan Services through May 3rd

St. John's youth are assembling Mother's Day gift bags for 20 women living in Good Samaritan's transitional housing. We are looking for various gift items such as beauty items and edible treats. Additional ideas are listed on the bulletin board and collection bin outside of Kley Hall. Please drop off by May 3rd and reach out to Beth Leong, b_lesher@hotmail.com with questions. Thank you for helping us bless these women on Mother's Day!

Dine and Donate Fundraiser May 4th

Join us for a Dine & Donate fundraiser on May 4th (all day) at **Hog Island, 785 Starr Street** in Phoenixville (610) 935-4644.

Enjoy a great meal while supporting our church—approximately 20% of all proceeds will be donated back to our ministries! **When ordering, please be sure to mention you are a friend or family member of St. John's.**

"May the 4th be with you"—bring your family and friends for a fun and meaningful day!



Vacation Bible School registration ends June 8th!

Vacation Bible School 2026 will be held June 22-26 from 9 a.m.-noon. Our theme this year is Rainforest Falls! Kids will have a blast plunging into a lifelong adventure of discovering the nature of God! They'll explore what it means to be rooted in a relationship with God—their creator—a safe place in life's storms. You won't want to miss it! Scan the QR code here to sign up or click this link: [St. John's Phoenixville VBS 2026 Registration](#)



We are also in need of adult volunteers to serve as group guides. If you are unavailable during the week of June 22nd for VBS week, there are still opportunities to serve. Please consider joining us on **Saturday, June 20th for our Set-Up Day** from 9:00 a.m.-12:00 p.m. Scan the code or click this link: [St. John's Lutheran Vacation Bible School 2026 Volunteer Signup](#)

[Bible School 2026 Volunteer Signup](#)

Please email Val Kramer (valerielynnkramer@gmail.com) with any questions. Thank you!



July 12-18, 2026

Each year, volunteers from St. John's spend a week in service, faith, and fellowship helping families in need throughout Central Appalachia. The trip is open to all adults and youth who have completed 8th grade. Whether you're a first-timer or a seasoned volunteer, we'd love to have you join the team! Contact Jodi O'Neill for details or to express your interest. (oneillsinvf@comcast.net or (610) 716-6644.

ASP (Appalachia Service Project) is a Christian, non-profit home repair organization that utilizes volunteers to perform free home repair and replacement for families living in sub-standard housing or families affected by a disaster in the Appalachian region. To find out more about Appalachia Service Project, please visit www.asphome.org.

St. John's next meal service for the residents of St. Mary's Franciscan shelter is May 25th-29th. Members of St. John's are asked to sign up to bring food items and/or to help cook the entrees and some sides for the meals. We also need a driver each day to deliver the meals to St. Mary's. Please be generous in your giving to this important mission. Sign up using the codes or links below or call Lynn Titus (949-573-2349) for assistance in signing up. Thank you in advance for your support of this worthy cause.



St. Mary's
Franciscan Shelter
For Homeless Families

Click this link or scan the code on the left to provide food items and/or drive: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BOB4FAEAB2DA3FD0-63486617-stmarys>



Click this link or scan the code on the right to help with cooking: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/60BOB4FAEAB2DA3FD0-63487739-cooking>

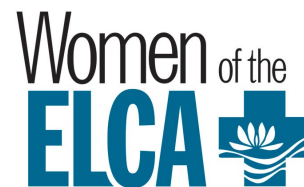


Pentecost

May 23rd and 24th

Please wear **red** to church on May 23rd and 24th to celebrate the festival of Pentecost! We will decorate the chancel with beautiful red geraniums which will be available to sponsor for \$9.75 in honor of, in memory of, or to the Glory of God. Please sign up on the chart in the hallway or contact Sonya in the church office. Payment may be placed in the offering plate. Checks should be made out to St. John's, with "Geraniums" on the memo line. Plants may be taken home after the 9 a.m. service on May 24th. The deadline for the order is May 17th.

A huge thank you to everyone who helped with our Annual Retreat on April 11th. It was an awesome experience and a great success. Many participants expressed their delight. Many said that it was the "best one yet." We even had a visit from Mary Magdalene who shared her life with Jesus and Holy Week experience. We are so thankful for the leadership of Pastor Kris Peterson. Some costs were offset by Thrivent Funds.



Our April 28th meeting featured a program about Valley Forge Army Hospital presented by Jack Ertell. Thanks Jack!

WELCA will not meet in May but will gather early in June (date TBD) to assist with VBS preparations.

Looking ahead, monthly meetings will resume in September on the fourth Tuesday of the month. Mark your calendars now.

One of the important projects of the Social Ministry Committee is providing meal service to St. Mary's Franciscan Shelter for women and children in Phoenixville two weeks a year. The next meal service is scheduled for May 25th-29th.

Here is what is involved in organizing and leading this project:

- Set up a Signup Genius schedule for meal items, cooking times, and drivers;
- Submit articles for *The Circle* and weekly bulletins;
- Monitor signups to ensure all slots are filled; and
- Provide oversight for two cooking sessions at St. John's (Sunday after church and Wednesday morning have worked well).



We need a person to lead this effort beginning in January, 2027. The current leader of this project will provide guidance for the new leader during the May, 2026 meal service. Please contact Lynn Titus at (949) 573-2349 for more information or to volunteer for this important leadership position.



- * Thanks to Dale Herbranson, John Dorward, and John Quinn for helping to hang the purple, black, and white drapes on the sanctuary gold cross and the outdoor garden iron cross.
- * Thanks to Dana Deichmann for making palm crosses for the congregation
- * Thanks to Tom Snyder & Tim Lockett for getting the large wooden cross out of storage prior to Good Friday
- * Thanks to everyone who helped during Holy Week, especially the Adult

Choir who helped set up for Good Friday and the Altar Guild who spent hours cleaning the chancel on Holy Saturday and setting up for Easter.

* Thanks to John Dorward for providing two new peace lilies.

* Thanks to all the people who helped make the services happen throughout Holy Week (and every week): ushers, acolytes, lectors, communion assistants, assisting ministers, choir members, musicians, Altar Guild, Stream Team, and especially Pr. Russ, Tom Snyder, John Quinn, and Sonya Sowards. Alleluia! He is Risen!

The Worship & Music Committee

May Worship Staff

Acolyte

3 TBD
10 TBD
17 Mitchell Reading
24 TBD
31 TBD

Altar Guild

3 Nancy Cressman & Janet Ertell
10 Donna Anderson & Cathy Garrett
17 Jean Herbranson & Kathy Kelsh
24 Betty Hans & Jean Herbranson
31 Jean Herbranson

Assisting Minister

3 Grace Supplee
10 Tom Snyder
17 Bill Starling
24 Ron Stevens
31 Mimi Woods

Bread Bakers

2/3 Rich Latella/Aimee Hillegas
9/10 TBD
17 Rich Latella
24 TBD
31 TBD

Communion Assistant/Lector

3 Kristin McGregor
10 Nancy Cressman
17 Mitch Reading
24 TBD
31 Walt Deichmann

Counters

3 Jeff & Jeanne Schanzenbach
10 Jack & Janet Ertell
17 Mary Heiser; Mike & Cathy Kahl
24 Stephen & Jen Drewes
31 Mary Heiser, Kevin Gallagher & Don Bechtel

Evening Light Assistant

2 Rich Latella
9 Rich Latella
16 Sandy Momyer
23 TBD
30 Shirley Platzer

Lock-up

3 Jeanne Schanzenbach & Brian Greenwald
10 Aimee Hillegas
17 Kyle Oszeyczik
24 Kate Hicks
31 John Dorward & Jim Kelsh

Stream Team

3 Josh Romano & Nils Aho
10 Dale Herbranson & Paul Miller
17 Nils Aho & Dale Herbranson
24 Dale Herbranson & Josh Romano
31 Dale Herbranson

Ushers

3 Dick Kunsch & Jen Drewes
10 Barry Church & Donna Anderson
17 Sue Starling & Nancy Cressman
24 Don Titus & Cathy Garrett
31 Diane & Katelyn Blattner

Dear St. John's Lutheran Church:

Thank you for your generous gift of \$1,488 to ELCA Good Gifts. As a church, we are empowered to love and serve our neighbors as Christ first loved us. Your gifts to the ministries of the ELCA help people around the world feel the power and hope that flow from God's full, boundless love. Drawn together and guided by the Holy Spirit, we accomplish together what none of us could do alone.

With gratitude,

Rachel Wind
Executive for Development, ELCA

Thank you to the members of St. John's Lutheran Church for \$38,372 to the mission support fund. Way to step up! Thank you!

Bishop Bryan Penman
Synod Bishop

Thrivent Action Team Grants

Thrivent members are eligible to apply for two Action Team Grants each year to benefit their church. Special projects pop up from time to time at St. John's for which these grants could be used. If you'd like ideas for the use of your grant or need detailed instructions on how to apply, contact our Administrator, Sonya Sowards, or speak to a staff member, Committee chair, or Council member.

Give to St. John's Via App

Vanco, our eGiving provider, has launched an updated mobile app called Vanco Mobile. 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.

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
March 9, 2026**

Council Member Name	Pres/Exc/ or Absent	Committee Assigned	Term 1/2	Term Ends
John Dorward (President)	Present	Executive and Electronics	1	2/2028
Jeanne Schanzenbach (VP)	Present	Executive and Finance	1	2/2026
Sue Starling (Secretary)	Present	Executive and Fellowship/Welcoming	2	2/2027
Jim Kelsh	Present	Endowment	1	2/2029
Brian Greenwald	Present	Worship and Music	1	2/2029
Kate Hicks	Present	Faith Formation, Fellowship/Welcoming	1	2/2027
Aimee Hillegas	Absent	Social Ministry and Green Team	2	2/2027
Mike Kahl	Present	Executive	2	2/2028
Kyle Oszyczik	Present	Mutual Ministry and Property	1	2/2027
Marc Staudenmaier	Present	Stewardship	1	2/2026
Becky Stevens	Present	Executive and Columbarium	1	2/2028
Rachel Zimmermann	Present		1	2/2028
Pastor Russ	Present	n/a		
Guests:				
Sonya Sowards	Present	n/a		
Tom Snyder	Present	n/a		

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 pm by John.

Council devotional was led by John.

Prior Meeting Minutes

02/09/26 Council Minutes:

Motion by Marc, second by Jeanne to accept the minutes; motion carried.

02/22/26 Council Minutes after Annual Meeting:

Motion by Jeanne, second by Marc to accept the minutes; motion carried.

Staff Reports

Motion by Kyle, second by Marc to accept Staff reports; motion carried.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee meeting minutes of 2/23/26 – accepted as written.

Motion from committee that \$14,822.78 be transferred from the St. John's Investment Fund to the Operating Fund to reconcile the 2025 deficit of the Operating Fund. Motion carried.

Motion by Marc, second by Kate to accept Finance Committee minutes; motion carried.

Council reviewed the following Committee Reports:

- Electronics Committee of 02/15/26 – accepted as written.
 - Question as to desire for a monitor to display the daily schedule/meeting room; agreed it would be nice to have, but needs to show all daily activities on one screen instead of scrolling. Council members should solicit feedback from their committees,
- Faith Formation of 03/03/26 – accepted as written.

- Property Committee of 03/02/26 – accepted as written.
- Worship and Music Committee of 03/03/26 – accepted as written.
- Social Ministry Committee of 03/04/26 – accepted as written.
- Fellowship and Welcoming Committee of 02/24/26 – accepted as written.
- Columbarium Committee – did not meet.
- Executive Committee – did not meet.
- Stewardship Committee of 03/01/26 – accepted as written.
- Green Team of 2/16/26 – accepted as written.
- Circle of Life Endowment Committee of 02/14/26 – accepted as written.

Motion by Sue, second by Kate to accept committee reports; motion carried.

Old Business

- Lock-Up signup – covered.
- Muhlenberg Parish update – nothing to update beyond current Lent services.
- RIC Update – ongoing.
- Peer Ministry Update – ongoing.
- DCYFM Position Update – no new applications received.
- Constitution Update – Mike has gathered all of the various pieces that need to be integrated into the Constitution; will now begin to work on modifying/replacing.
- Security Policy Update – task force has been formed; in information-gathering stage, have done a walk-through of the property.
- Delegates to Assembly – May 29/30th at Trinity Lansdale; early registration ends 3/30; final registration due 4/27. Mike and Cathy Kahl and Dale Herbranson volunteered. Still looking for a teen to attend.
- Bear Creek Scholarships – likely 8 or 9 kids from St. John's attending. Need to work out details for scholarships (i.e. what is covered, etc.) Reminder that Bear Creek scholarships will be administered by the Scholarship Task Force as well.

New Business

- Vendor list from each committee to be updated annually – each committee needs to submit the list of vendors they work with so that everyone at the church can access them as needed. Sonya will send out a consistent format.
- Check terms and leader list – please let Sonya know of any updates that need to be made.
- Returned Columbarium niche – Council needs approve the refund/return of a niche. **Jim made a motion to approve the refund and the niche will be returned to inventory; Becky seconded; motion carried.**

John adjourned the meeting by decree at 8:00.

Next regular meeting is April 13th, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Starling

Church Council Secretary

May 2026—Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<p>26</p> <p>Beth Williams's birthday Carter Niness's birthday Randall Carr's birthday Richard and Michelle Bader's anniversary Samantha Schumacher's birthday</p>	<p>27</p> <p>Brian Becker's birthday</p>	<p>28</p> <p>Morgan Klotzbach's birthday</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Jason and Tracy Stewart's anniversary Ramona Moreland's birthday</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Jason Birdsell's birthday Joe Themens's birthday Stephen Drewes's birthday</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Erin Schaible's birthday</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Linda Landis's birthday Mario Walls's birthday</p>
<p>3</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Allan Moreland's birthday</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Donna Thompson's birthday Madelyn Hicks's birthday</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Allen and Beth Kramer's anniversary Dylan McCabe's birthday Jeanne Schanzenbach's birthday</p>	<p>7</p> <p>Anna Gemer's birthday Rosa Gemer's birthday Charles and Paula Weiss's anniversary Christine Huseton's birthday Joan Benne's birthday</p>	<p>8</p> <p>Jeff Schanzenbach's birthday</p>	<p>9</p>
<p>10</p> <p>Matthew and Jessica Cratty's anniversary</p>	<p>11</p> <p>Emily Birdsell's birthday Max Strunk's birthday Sandra Zimmermann's birthday Tommy Andrews's birthday</p>	<p>12</p>	<p>13</p> <p>Laura Geiger's birthday Ted and Sue Weicheld's anniversary</p>	<p>14</p> <p>John O'Connell and Andrea Hart's anniversary</p>	<p>15</p> <p>Adeline McCabe's birthday Claudine Niness's birthday Mary Faddis's birthday Nancy Cressman's birthday Nancy Perchalski's birthday Stephanie Bearoff's birthday</p>	<p>16</p> <p>Mark Blattner's birthday Rebecca Williams's birthday Santino Sicilia and Amber Carey's anniversary</p>
<p>17</p>	<p>18</p> <p>Nicole Dalasio's birthday</p>	<p>19</p> <p>April Liedike's birthday Melissa Thompson's birthday Ron Williams's birthday Rosie LaRocca's birthday</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p> <p>Britta Pekofsky's birthday</p>	<p>22</p> <p>Liz Spurlock's birthday</p>	<p>23</p> <p>Devon Mensch-Unruh's birthday Nabil Abraham and Erin McKenna's anniversary Randall and Karen Carr's anniversary Teddy Wimble's birthday Walt and Dana Deichmann's anniversary</p>
<p>24</p> <p>Fred and RuthAnn Schell's anniversary Marc and Amber Herbranson's anniversary</p>	<p>25</p>	<p>26</p> <p>Emerson Carr's birthday Gavin Moreland's birthday Mark Woelflin's birthday Marti Steiner's birthday Nick Mara's birthday</p>	<p>27</p>	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p> <p>Eli Smith-Kiser's birthday</p>	<p>30</p> <p>Justin and Jodi O'Neill's anniversary Stephen and Kimberly DiGioia's anniversary</p>
<p>31</p> <p>Donald Platzer's birthday Rich Latella and Richard Skoniczin's anniversary</p>	<p>1</p> <p>Dax Kunsch's birthday Dodi Strunk's birthday</p>	<p>2</p> <p>Dirk Rimrott's birthday Paul Miller's birthday</p>	<p>3</p> <p>Dan Free's birthday Ian Kramer's birthday Mark Wallace's birthday Tyler Speaker's birthday</p>	<p>4</p> <p>Bill and Sue Starling's anniversary Mitch and Erica Reading's anniversary</p>	<p>5</p> <p>Derek and Carla Carr's anniversary</p>	<p>6</p> <p>Austin Starling's birthday</p>

May 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
26 8:30am Children's Choir 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Holy Communion--followed by reception of new members 3pm Girl Scouts 4041 3pm Girl Scouts 41766 7pm St. John's Choir & Friends	27 10am Garden Club 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	28 10:30am WELCA 6:30pm Parents' Grief Group 7pm Fellowship Committee	29 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	30 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Handbells	1 Quinn-Heitz wedding rehearsal	2 2pm Quinn-Heitz wedding 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
3 8:30am Children's Choir 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm Girl Scouts #41441 3pm SJC&F rehearsal 5:30pm St. John's Choir & Friends dinner 7pm St. John's Choir & Friends Concert	4 Dine & Donate at Hog Island 10:15am Staff 11am Alanon Family Group 5pm Stewardship Committee 6pm Cadette Troop 42024 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry	5 6pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Faith Formation Committee 6:30pm Parents' Grief Group 7:30pm Worship & Music	6 4pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	7 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Handbells	8	9 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
10 8:30am Children's Choir 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Holy Communion 3pm Girl Scouts 4041 3pm Girl Scouts 41766	11 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Church Council	12 6:30pm Parents' Grief Group	13 5:15pm Daisy Girl Scouts 6pm Girl Scouts #4432 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	14 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Handbells	15 St. Peter's lunch	16 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
17 8:30am ASP Car Wash 8:30am Children's Choir 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm Girl Scouts #41441	18 Circle deadline 11am Alanon Family Group 6pm Cadette Troop 42024 7pm Green Team 7pm Stephen Ministry	19 4pm Girl Scouts 6pm Girl Scouts	20 7pm Alanon	21 7pm Naranon 8:15pm Naranon Support	22	23 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
24 9am Holy Communion 3pm Girl Scouts 4041 3pm Girl Scouts 41766	25 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	26 10:30am WELCA 7pm Fellowship Committee	27 6pm Girl Scouts #4432 7pm Alanon	28 7pm Naranon	29	30 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
St. Mary's Meals						
31 9am Holy Communion w/confirmation	1 10:15am Staff 11am Alanon Family Group 5pm Stewardship Committee 6pm Cadette Troop 42024 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry	2 6:30pm Faith Formation Committee 7:30pm Worship & Music	3 4pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon	4 wedding rehearsal 7pm Naranon	5 wedding	6 11am Kurtz interment & luncheon 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous

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
Parish Administrator:
Sonya K. Sowards
Sexton:
Mark Yanchek, Jr.
Nursery Coordinator:
Arlene Hudak

CHURCH COUNCIL

President:
John Dorward
Vice President:
Jeanne Schanzenbach
Secretary:
Sue Starling
Treasurer:
Shirley Platzer
Assistant Treasurer:
Don Titus
Financial Recording Secretary:
Mary Heiser
Executive Committee:
Mike Kahl
Becky Stevens
Other Members of Council:
Kyle Oszyczik
Aimee Hillegas
Kate Hicks
Rachel Zimmermann
Marc Staudenmaier
Jim Kelsh
Brian Greenwald

Stephen Ministry Leader:
Linda Landis — (610) 933-9544

COMMITTEES

Columbarium:
Bill Starling, Chair
Becky Stevens, Council Rep.

Electronics:
Bill Schoellkopf & Dale Herbranson
Co-Chairs

Endowment:
Jim Kelsch, Council Rep.

Executive:
Jeanne Schanzenbach, Chair

Faith Formation:
Danielle Reading & Val Kramer, Co-Chairs
Kate Hicks, Council Reps.

Fellowship & Welcoming:
Sandra Zimmermann, Fellowship Chair
Kate Hicks, Welcoming Chair
and Council Rep. for Welcoming & Fellowship

Finance:
Kevin Gallagher, Chair
Jeanne Schanzenbach
Council Rep.

Green Team
Aimee Hillegas, Council Rep.

Mutual Ministry:
Kyle Oszyczik, Council Rep.

Property:
Bobbi Riley, Chair
Kyle Oszyczik, Council Rep.

Social Ministry:
Janet Gerner, Chair
Aimee Hillegas, Council Rep.

Stewardship:
Marc Staudenmaier, Council Rep.

Worship and Music:
Jean Herbranson, Chair
Brian Greenwald, Council Rep.

Office Assistants:
Joan Carl
Pat Renninger

The Circle Editor:
Sonya K. Sowards

Pastoral Acts

Funeral
Deborah L. Merroth Ahola
April 18, 2026

Change in Contact Information

Britta Pekofsky
215 Meetinghouse Lane
Phoenixville PA 19460
(610) 721-8328

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St. John's Choir & Friends / Adult Faith Formation	2
Mother's Day Collection for Good Samaritan / Dine and Donate at Hog Island / ASP Car Wash / poetry	3
VBS / ASP / St. Mary's / Pentecost Geraniums	4
WELCA / Help Wanted / Thank You	5
May Worship Staff / More Thank Yous / Thrivent Grants / Giving via App	6
Council Minutes	7-8
Calendars	9-10
Church Leaders / Credits	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 (with exceptions)
please call for appointments with staff members
A Caring, Sharing, Growing Congregation of the ELCA

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



May 2026