

The Circle

October 2026



Dear Friends in Christ,

Grace and peace be with you all! I hope everyone has had a good beginning of autumn, and that, for those of us whose lives are shaped by the school calendar, that the beginning of the school year has been a good one. I was thrilled to be able to be a part of the confirmation class' year-opening lock-in, and to see everyone back for Rally Sunday and the beginning of the Sunday school year at St. John's. I'm excited for everything that we have planned for this year, and for all the ways that we'll live, grow, and share in God's love together in the coming weeks and months. As the program year at St. John's begins, I wanted to take a moment and share a couple of important things with you all that might help everyone at St. John's to be able to be closer in community with one another.

The first thing I wanted to lift up is just a periodic thing about hospital visits. Back in the day, if someone was admitted to the hospital, the hospital would call that person's church as a matter of course. Nowadays, though, that isn't the case. Medical privacy laws like HIPAA mean that unless a patient explicitly asks a hospital to contact someone, that hospital is legally bound to not tell anyone. I'm more than glad to visit people in the hospital (whether those folks are members of St. John's or members' families or whomever), for prayer or Holy Communion or anything else. It's an important part of my call as the pastor of St. John's, and I'm honored to be able to do it. If you, or a friend or family member, ever have to go to the hospital, please let either me or Sonya know so that I can find a time to come visit (if you'd like me to), and so we can keep praying for you and your family members.

The other things that I have to share both have to do with money. The first is a warning about a scam that's been going around recently. Every so often, someone will get a text or an email from someone claiming to be me, and saying, "could you please do me a favor? I'm about to go into a meeting and can't talk on the phone, but I need your help with something." If that someone follows up on it, the person pretending to be Pastor Russ will ask them to buy gift cards and then send pictures of the back of the cards. At that point, the scammer has access to the money for eBay or Amazon or wherever, and the person buying the gift cards is out however much money. I've heard reports from pastors all over the country, from all different denominations, about this scam. But they seem to be focusing on Lutherans in this area right now, and St. John's has been hit a couple of times in recent weeks. Please know that I will never ask you to buy gift cards for me or anyone else, and that if I do have to ask someone to help with a financial matter, I won't do it via text message. If you get a text or an email claiming to be from me that seems fishy, please call either my cell or the church office to double-check. I'd much rather have someone call me to check than have them lose money for something like that.

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And finally, I'd like to mention Thrivent Action Teams. If you have life insurance through Thrivent, or if you have money invested in any way with them, you can apply for a \$250 micro-grant to use as seed money for a service project to help benefit a nonprofit in the community. Thrivent members can do that twice every year. You don't have to use those funds to support the church - you can use them for any nonprofit. (I'm probably going to end up using one of mine this year to help with a fundraising project for my sons' Cub Scout packs). But a lot of people from St. John's have used their Action Team funds to help with things including supplies for the WELCA retreat, giveaway items for our booth at Phoenixville Pride, a new banner for our church sign, supplies for Vacation Bible School, and many more things - those are just the ones that I know of! If you're a Thrivent member, and you'd like to use your Action Team funds to help with some of the ministries and projects at St. John's, please let me know.

I hope that your school year is off to a good start, and I'm looking forward to seeing all the ways that we'll continue to love God and love our neighbors throughout this year!

In Christ,
Pastor Russ



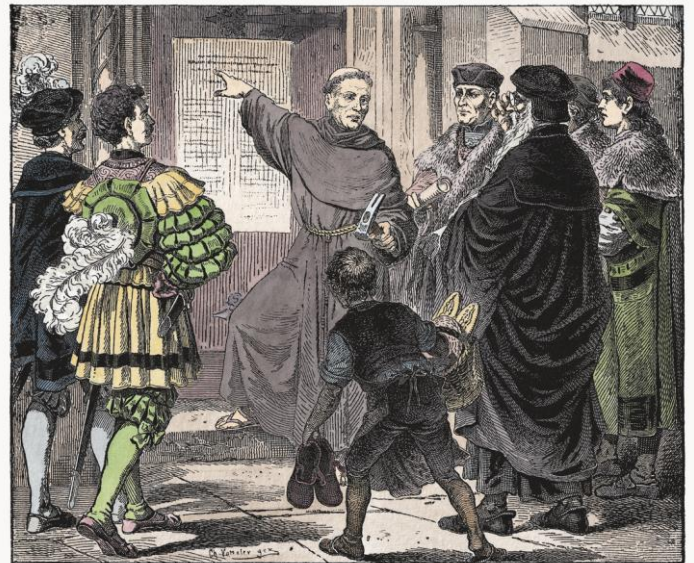
At 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, October 7th, Adult Choir will begin rehearsing, music for the 7 p.m. Christmas Eve service. Additional singers, especially older youth, are invited to join in preparation of this joyful music. Christmas selections will begin rehearsals in Kley Hall. Come, be one of the Angels Singing. For additional information contact Tom Snyder, Director of Music, ftsiii@gmail.com.

Bread Bakers

Do you like to bake bread? Would you be willing to bake communion bread?

We are looking for a couple more people to bake bread for our weekly communion. We use Sign-Up Genius to make it easy to schedule. You can use your own bread recipe, or we can supply recipes for you. Bread can be baked ahead of time and stored in the church kitchen freezer or brought to church on Saturdays.

For more information, contact Jean Herbranson (deherb@juno.com), Sonya in the church office, or Pastor Russ.



Reformation

Martin Luther nailed his 95 Theses on the church door 509 years ago, and the Reformation movement continues today.

We will observe Reformation on Oct. 24th & 25th by wearing red (the color of celebration), greeting 'Martin Luther' in the narthex, and hearing the Word of God expressed through message and special music.



Adult Faith Formation

Adults have options to meet, learn, discuss, and grow in faith every Sunday morning at 9 a.m. All groups welcome new people! **Faith Life** meets in Room 1 to the left of the Kley Hall stage and discusses current religious and faith topics found in the media. **Happy Hour** meets in the Eisenhower Room to bond over parenting and other issues. In October, **Sunday Morning Book Club** will read and discuss "Hello Beautiful" by Ann Napolitano in the Pastor's office. **Bible Study** meets in the Fireside Room and will continue the video/discussion of the Book of Revelation.



internationally known organist

DR. CAROL WILLIAMS



October 11, 2026 - 4:00 pm

St. John's Lutheran Church, 355 St. John's Circle, Phoenixville, PA

Freewill offering: Suggested donation \$10

Questions? Call 610.933.3947
stjohnluthphoenixville.org



Commitment Sunday Lunch and Celebration

October 18th, after church

Join us after worship for a fun family lunch as we celebrate our St. John's community and look ahead to the year to come! This is an opportunity to enjoy good food and fellowship, hear about the impact of our congregation's giving, and prayerfully consider how each of us can support the mission and ministry of St. John's in the coming year.



Come for the food, stay for the fellowship—and help us continue building a strong future together! Scan the code to or click the link, or email office@stjohnlutheran.org to RSVP.
<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/hm0w1iU3E6>



Back to School Angel Tree through October 18th

For the past 22 years St. John's has provided full tuition for students at the Maasae Girls Lutheran Secondary School (MGLSS) in Monduli, Tanzania. We have sponsored more than 25 girls who have and are currently receiving an education. This year, we are moving the Angel Tree from Christmastide to a Back-to-School theme as part of our Rally Day and "back to Sunday school" celebrations. Please consider supporting the St. John's Girls by making a donation and choosing a fun school- or book-themed item from the tree. In addition, full and partial scholarships are both welcome and make an education possible for a student who would otherwise not have this opportunity. A gift of \$100 per month or \$1,200 per year covers one young woman's room, board, fees, books, supplies, and uniform for the school year. For more information, please speak with Aimee Hillegas or Janet Gerner.



You can give via a check in the offering box or scan the code or click the link and note "angel tree" in the memo section. Any donation will be warmly welcomed!

<https://secure.myvanco.com/L-YZYH/campaign/C-14HP5>



Pastor Appreciation

October 11th at 9:45 a.m.

October is Rostered Ministers' Appreciation month! Join us Sunday, October 11th at 9:45 a.m. for a special Fellowship Time thanking our rostered ministers Pastor Russ Crouthamel, Pastor Tom Kochenderfer and Deacon Tom Snyder.



Save Your Fork — The 13th Annual Pasta Party Dinner-to-Go Fundraiser is Back!

Pre-order now and pick up October 24, 4:30–6 p.m. at St. John's (delivery available within 12 miles)

Nick Castellano and Kelly LeMarbe are back in the kitchen with their crowd-favorite Italian gravy—meatballs and sausage over pasta—plus sides and dessert. Vegetarian and gluten-friendly options available.

Double your impact: order a meal for yourself and add a gift meal for Good Samaritan Services of Phoenixville.

Raffle baskets return, too! Last year we gave away six baskets worth \$1,455 combined. Details coming soon—catch a preview (and buy tickets or meals in person) at the Phoenixville Farmers' Market in the coming weeks. Don't miss your chance to win big prizes this year!

Since 2004, the Phoenixville Area

Time Bank has strengthened our community through time banking—trading skills and hours, one for one. Every pasta dinner sold supports our Helping Fund, which serves seniors, people with disabilities, those recovering from illness, and neighbors facing underemployment. One meal. One ticket. One big difference. Curious to learn more? Use our QR code to see our website or go to: www.patimebank.org/pasta-fundraiser



Something New for Our October Packing Event!

October 11th @ 9:00 a.m.

This year, in lieu of our traditional backpack event, St. John's is partnering with **Kate's Casa**, a local Phoenixville nonprofit supporting children and families in our community.

Our goal is to put together **80 Fall Care Bags — 40 for girls and 40 for boys.**

We are collecting:

- 🧥 **Fall sweatshirts/hoodies** — Medium or Large
Examples: Target, Old Navy, Aeropostale, American Eagle, Nike on sale, etc.
- 🩲 **New underwear** — Medium or Large multipacks are perfect!
Examples: Target, Walmart, Old Navy, Hanes, Fruit of the Loom, etc.
- 🧦 **2 pairs of new socks**
- 🪥 **1 individually wrapped toothbrush**
- 🦷 **1 standard-size tube of toothpaste**
- 🚿 **Deodorant**
- 🧴 **ChapStick/lip balm**



Kate's Casa

Each bag will also include a **handwritten note from our St. John's congregation.**



You'll find a collection box right outside the sanctuary where you can drop off donated items. **Cash donations are also welcome** and will be used to help purchase items needed to complete the bags. Just scan the code and note "backpacks" to donate cash. You can also drop a check in the offering plate with "backpacks" in the memo line.

Please help us fill 80 bags and make a direct impact on children and families right here in Phoenixville! ❤️

We will meet as a congregation to pack these bags on October 11th during Sunday school! Please provide all supplies no later than October 4th. If you have any questions, please ask Erica or Charlotte Reading.

Red Cross Blood Drive
Monday, October 12th 1-6 p.m.

American Red Cross

Every 2 seconds, someone
in the U.S. needs blood.

*Give blood.
Help save lives.*



Please sign up to give blood at the next Muhlenberg Parish sponsored Red Cross event, right here at St. John's in Kley Hall! Schedule your timeslot through the QR code or click here: [Schedule a Blood, Platelet or Plasma Donation | American Red Cross](#)



Blood Drive
The Muhlenberg Parish
St. John's Lutheran Church

Kley Hall
355 St. Johns Cir
Phoenixville, PA 19460

Monday, October 12, 2026
1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.

JOIN US FOR TRUNK OR TREAT! **—October 25th @ 4 p.m.**

Come join us for a fun-filled Trunk or Treat hosted by St. John's Lutheran Church in Phoenixville on Sunday, October 25th! Bring the whole family for an afternoon of costumes, candy, and community fun!

St. John's playground parking lot or Kley Hall

Trunk Set-Up: 3:30 p.m.

Trick-or-Treating Begins: 4:00 p.m.

Rain or Shine!

Trunk or Treat will be held in the **parking lot by the playground**. In the event of rain, we'll move the fun indoors to Kley Hall, where participants can decorate tables instead of trunks.

We can't wait to see all of your creative trunks, costumes, and smiling faces!

Click the link to sign up to decorate a trunk!

<https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfisBpd55TRs2NKTPLmDNxbVMIGoYiqs2g35uFvqFrLyH4m0g/viewform?usp=header>



October 2026

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm PCO Rehearsal	28 10:30am Covered Bridge Garden Club 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	29 6:30pm Parent Grief Group	30 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	1 7pm Naranon	2	3 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
4 9am Faith Formation 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm PCO Rehearsal	5 10:15am Staff 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry 7pm Stewardship Committee	6 6:30pm Faith Formation Committee 6:30pm Parent Grief Group 7:30pm Worship & Music	7 4pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	8 7pm Naranon	9	10 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
11 9am Faith Formation w/LWR backpacks 10:15am Holy Communion 4pm Dr. Carol Williams, organist	12 11am Alanon Family Group 1pm Muhlenberg Parish blood drive 7pm Church Council	13 6pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Parent Grief Group	14 5:30pm Brownie Troop #4863 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	15 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Bells rehearsal 8:15pm Naranon Support	16 St. Peter's lunch	17 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
18 Circle deadline 9am Faith Formation w/First Bible 10:15am Holy Communion 11:30am Commitment Sunday all-church luncheon 2pm PCO Rehearsal	19 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Green Team 7pm Stephen Ministry	20 6:30pm Parent Grief Group	21 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	22 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Bells rehearsal	23	24 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 5pm TimeBank Pasta Dinner 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
25 9am Faith Formation w/First Bible 10:15am Holy Communion-new members received 2pm PCO Rehearsal 4pm Trunk or Treat	26 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Finance Committee	27 10:30am WELCA 6pm Girl Scouts 6:30pm Parent Grief Group 7pm Fellowship Committee	28 5:30pm Brownie Troop #4863 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	29 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Bells rehearsal	30	31 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous
1 8:30am Children's Choir rehearsal 9am Faith Formation w/First Bible 10:15am Holy Communion 2pm PCO Rehearsal	2 10:15am Staff 11am Alanon Family Group 7pm Property 7pm Stephen Ministry 7pm Stewardship Committee	3 6:30pm Faith Formation Committee 6:30pm Parent Grief Group 7:30pm Worship & Music	4 4pm Social Ministry 7pm Alanon 7:30pm Adult Choir Rehearsal	5 7pm Naranon 7:15pm Adult Bells rehearsal	6	7 5pm Evening Light (w/communion) 7pm Alcoholics Anonymous

Dear friends at St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church:

On behalf of The Trevor Project, we would like to extend our heartfelt thanks to you for the generous donation of \$1,000. Your gift directly supports life saving work for LGBTQ+ youth in crisis. Thank you for helping us to save lives and create a brighter future for those in need. We look forward to updating you on our progress in the coming year.

With much appreciation,

Deborah Barge
Chief Advancement Officer
The Trevor Project

October 2026 Birthdays and Anniversaries

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
27 Aiden Abraham's birthday Brett Emery's birthday Sophia Seidel's birthday	28 Heather Yonosh's birthday Nicholas VanDerveer's birthday Peter and Diane Sitkowski's anniversary	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 Alex and Amanda Frangoulis's anniversary Jon and Kate Hicks's anniversary	9 AvaLee 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 Feters's anniversary Robbie McMahon's birthday
11 Peg Groening's birthday Robert and Julie Watkins's anniversary Stephen and Cindy Riley's anniversary Wynne Salvas's birthday	12 Bill and Barbara Sell's anniversary Brian Schanzenbach's birthday Stephen and Jen Drewes'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 Becky Stevens's anniversary	14 Glynys LaBoon's birthday Jim and Claudine Niness's anniversary Kristin and Lisa McGregor's anniversary Lyndsey Williams's birthday Patti Bell'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 Justin Rawlins's birthday Nora Strauss's birthday	23 Bill Sell Jr's birthday Nicholas DeWolf's birthday Peter Trate's birthday	24 A. Lee Dalasio's birthday Lisa McGregor's birthday
25 Kevin and Mary Martin's anniversary Melissa Rutherford's birthday Ron Williams and Venus Hadeed's anniversary TJ Babinchak's birthday	26 Mark Gerner'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

**St. John's Lutheran Church
Council Meeting Minutes
August 10, 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	2	2/2029
Sue Starling (Secretary)	Present	Executive and Scholarship	2	2/2027
Jim Kelsh	Present	Endowment	1	2/2029
Brian Greenwald	Present	Worship and Music	1	2/2029
Kate Hicks	Absent	Faith Formation, Fellowship/Welcoming	1	2/2027
Aimee Hillegas	Present	Social Ministry and Green Team	2	2/2027
Mike Kahl	Present	Executive	2	2/2028
Kyle Oszeyczik	Present	Mutual Ministry and Property	1	2/2027
Marc Staudenmaier	Present	Stewardship	2	2/2029
Becky Stevens	Present	Executive and Columbarium	1	2/2028
Rachel Zimmermann	Present	Mutual Ministry	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 Marc.

Prior Meeting Minutes

06/08/26 Council Minutes and 7/15/26 Special Vote Minutes (DCYFM Offer): **Motion by Mike, second by Jim to accept the minutes as written; motion carried.**

Staff Reports

Motion by Jeanne, seconded by Jim to accept Staff reports as written; motion carried.

Committee Reports

Finance Committee minutes of 6/22/26 accepted as written – **motion by Jim, seconded by Becky, motion carried.**

- Upcoming budget development timetable will be the same as in previous years, with drafts due in October.
- A sub-committee of Finance is looking at the job responsibilities of both the Treasurer and the Recording Secretary in anticipation of the upcoming retirement of the people currently holding those positions. The hope is that some processes and responsibilities can be simplified.
- The 2025 annual audit needs to be completed; per the constitution, a team of three is required and can serve two consecutive terms. Jeanne will check to see if previous members will serve again.
- Jeanne will talk to Finance about potential use of Outreach funds for the balance of the funds needed for Rise Against Hunger (roughly \$550 needed to make up the total of \$1100).

Council reviewed the following Committee Reports:

- Electronics Committee – did not meet.
- Faith Formation – did not meet.
- Property Committee of 08/03/26 – accepted as written.
 - **Motion from Committee:** To approve the rental use of our kitchen to Christina Smith, a non-member who will be baking bread to sell for profit. The kitchen usage is not to exceed 14 times per year, per Chester County Health Department requirements for temporary usage. The rental is subject to final paperwork preparation and approval by St. John's counsel and the Chester County Health Department.
 - Discussion regarding multiple issues ensued; Council agreed that Property and St. John's Counsel should move forward with negotiating the final terms and then come back to Congregational Council for contract approval.
 - **Kyle amended the motion to read:** To approve the rental use of our kitchen to Christina Smith, a non-member who will be baking bread to sell for profit. The kitchen usage is not to exceed 14 times per year, per Chester County Health Department requirements for temporary usage. The rental is subject to final paperwork preparation and approval by St. John's counsel and the Chester County Health Department, followed by final approval by the Congregational Council. **Motion was seconded by Jim, motion carried with one 'No'.**
 - **Motion from Committee:** To approve the following three items related to the repair of the Kley Hall bridge/sidewalk area:
 - Rescind acceptance of the Kley bridge replacement proposal from Forcine Concrete in 2025 due to non-execution of the contract
 - To accept the July 2026 proposal from Patterson Masonry to repair the Kley bridge at a cost of \$10,875 plus ancillary costs
 - To accept the July 2026 proposal from Quality Fabricating to make and install new railings on the Kley bridge at a cost of \$10,215.23 plus ancillary costs. **Motion carried for all three items.**
- Worship and Music Committee of 07/19/26 – accepted as written.
- Social Ministry Committee – did not meet.
- Fellowship and Welcoming Committee - did not meet.
- Columbarium Committee – did not meet.
- Executive Committee – did not meet.
- Stewardship Committee of 07/13/26 and 08/03/26 – accepted as written.
- Green Team – did not meet.
- Circle of Life Endowment Committee – did not meet.
- Safety Task Force of 07/16/26 and 07/29/26 – accepted as written.

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

Old Business

- Lock-Up signup – covered.
- Muhlenberg Parish update – August 30th Rise Against Hunger event.
- RIC Update – ongoing.
- Peer Ministry Update – ongoing.
- Constitution Update – Mike waiting on mission statements/charters for all existing committees; only 4 committees have submitted thus far. All council members should also provide feedback on the changes Mike sent in June. Mike will resend the changes made.
- Discussion of Bear Creek Camp – Jim drafted an outline of how an ongoing campership program could work.

New Business

- Upcoming congregational meeting information – time to begin to think about annual committee reports.
- Nominees for upcoming council elections – two members will be completing their second terms. Begin to think about potential nominees.

John adjourned the meeting by decree at 8:37.

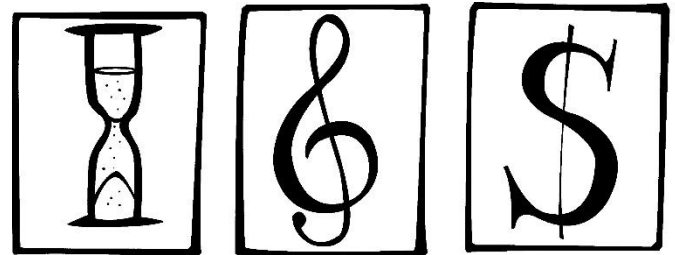
Next regular meeting is September 14, 2026.

Respectfully submitted,
Sue Starling

Church Council Secretary

Help Wanted

There are so many ways to use the talents God has given you at St. John's! Every year we commit our treasure to God with our pledges and our time in prayer and worship. Consider committing your talent to God by volunteering in one of our many ministries!



Time Talent Treasure

We need:

- **Offering counters**—usually one hour after the Sunday service. Contact Jack Ertell, (610) 948-1278 or jertell@comcast.net.
- **Finance Committee members**—especially if you have experience or interest in budgeting, investing, accounting, bookkeeping or simply want to help ensure our church's financial resources are used wisely. Contact Kevin Gallagher at kevinmgallagher@hotmail.com.
- **Fellowship Committee members**—help with occasional events where we gather as a church family—usually with food so cool hairnets and attractive apron options are included! If interested, please contact Rachel Zimmermann at rezimmermann84@gmail.com, or Sue Starling at rofostarling@gmail.com.
- **Welcoming Team members**—work with the Fellowship Committee to help new members be introduced to St John's by being available for questions and promoting activities and opportunities at St John's. If you're interested in joining our team, please contact Kate Hicks at katehicks1921@gmail.com.
- **Altar Guild members**—work behind the scenes to help “set the table for Jesus” once a month. Speak to to Pastor, Jean Herbranson, or any AG member listed in the bulletin if you're interested.
- **Electronics Team members**—help with internal network (wired and Wi-Fi), office software support, sound and audio/visual setups. New ideas and improvements are always welcome. Talk with Dale Herbranson (dale.herbranson@outlook.com) or Paul Miller (pbm1306@comcast.net).
- **Prayer ministry members**—we have two active prayer chains: a phone chain and an email chain. Contact Linda Landis.
- **Stream Team members**—help stream our Sunday morning worship service and other events. If you would like to volunteer, please contact Dale Herbranson at: (dale.herbranson@outlook.com).
- **Worship Assistants**—such as Assisting Ministers, Communion Assistants/Lectors, and Ushers. Speak to Pastor Russ, Deacon Tom Snyder or Parish Administrator Sonya Sowards if you're interested!

October Worship Staff

Acolyte

- 4 Madelyn Hicks
- 11 Benton Drewes
- 18 Charlotte Reading
- 25 Leah & Hannah Kramer

Altar Guild

- 4 Jean Herbranson & Andrea Hart
- 11 Donna Anderson & Cathy Garrett
- 18 Andrea Hart & Kathy Kelsh
- 25 Betty Hans & Jean Herbranson

Assisting Minister

- 4 Walt Deichmann
- 11 Mimi Woods
- 18 Bill Starling
- 25 Ron Stevens

Bread Bakers

- 3/4 Kate Hicks
- 10/11 Rich Latella
- 17/18 Adam Supplee
- 24/25 Rich Latella

Communion Assistant/Lector

- 4 Kristin McGregor
- 11 Ryan Bridge
- 18 Nancy Cressman
- 25 Jim Kelsh

Counters

- 4 Mike & Cathy Kahl
- 11 Heather Yonosh & Jeanne Schanzenbach
- 18 Mary Heiser; Mike & Cathy Kahl
- 25 Stephen & Jen Drewes

Evening Light Assistant

- 3 Rich Latella
- 10 Sandy Momyer
- 17 Rich Latella
- 24 Sandy Momyer
- 31 TBD

Fellowship Time

- 11 Pastor Appreciation

Lock-up

- 4 Kate Hicks
- 11 Jeanne Schanzenbach
- 18 Jim Kelsh
- 25 John Dorward

Stream Team

- 4 Nils Aho & Dale Herbranson
- 11 Aimee Hillegas & Josh Romano
- 18 Josh Romano & Aimee Hillegas
- 25 Dale Herbranson & Nils Aho

Ushers

- 4 Diane & Katelyn Blattner
- 11 Nancy Cressman & Donna Anderson
- 18 Sue Starling & Cathy Garrett
- 25 Jen Drewes & Barry Church

ST. JOHN'S SAFETY TASK FORCE

please return survey by October 1st

The St. John's safety task force is a group formed to thoughtfully assess and strengthen the safety of our church community. The task force currently includes St. John's members Kristin McGregor, Kate Hicks, Amy Peruto and Pastor Russ. Our goal is to review existing safety policies and procedures, identify potential gaps or areas for improvement, and explore options that ensure a safe and welcoming environment for all who gather at St. John's. We would love to have your input on safety at St. John's. Please click the link or fill out one of the paper forms in the narthex. Your responses will help guide decisions that promote both safety and a welcoming worship environment for our church family. Many thanks in advance.

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScb40MV7bwXHWexiUzMFHS_70pyzW5li-U7GBY-3QDkq1y_tg/viewform



SPONSOR CANDLES, BULLETINS AND FLOWERS

Members and friends are invited to sponsor the **vigil candle, bulletins, and flowers** in memory of or in honor of loved ones. The cost is \$12 per month for the candle, \$20 per week for bulletins and \$50 per week for flowers. Sign up on the sheets on the hallway bulletin board or contact Sonya Sowards for available months and dates and to specify the occasion.

SHOE COLLECTION

The Green Team has partnered with Soles4Souls to collect any type of gently used shoes. The collection container is in the glass door entrance and is available to accept the donation of your shoes. Thanks for helping the planet by keeping some shoes from going to the landfill.

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:

Deacon 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 Platzter

Financial Recording Secretary:

Mary Heiser

Executive Committee:

Mike Kahl

Becky Stevens

Other Members of Council:

Kyle Oszeyczik

Aimee Hillegas

Kate Hicks

Rachel Zimmermann

Marc Staudenmaier

Jim Kelsh

Brian Greenwald

Stephen Ministry Leader:

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In this issue:

Pastor's Note	1&2
Christmas Choir / Reformation / Bread Bakers	2
Adult Faith Formation/ Dr. Carol Williams	3
Commitment Sunday Luncheon / Angel Tree / Pastor Appreciation	4
Pasta Dinner / Backpacks	5
Blood Drive / Trunk or Treat	6
Calendars	7-8
Thank You	7
Council Minutes	9-11
Help Wanted	11
October Worship Staff / Safety Task Force / flowers & bulletins/ shoe collection	12
Church Leaders	Back cover

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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)

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THE CIRCLE



October 2026