

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
1028 Church Street, PO Box 966
Fogelsville, PA 18051-0966



www.stjohns-fogelsville.org
The Rev. Nelson Quiñones, Pastor
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May 2023

COMING IN MAY:

- May 3:** Mother/Daughter Banquet
- May 7:** Lehigh Mission District Assembly
- May 14:** Mother's Day & Bible Presentation
- May 19:** Community Free Dinner
- May 21:** Sunday School End-of-the-year Party
- May 28:** Confirmation
- May 29:** Memorial Day Service



LOOKING AHEAD...

- 6/1-3 – Synod Assembly
- 6/4 – worship time change & Father's Day Brunch
- 6/9 – Pines Dinner Theater Show
- 6/11 – honoring our graduates & choir

Thank you to everyone who completed a “**NEWSLETTER QUESTIONNAIRE**”! If you have already selected your preference, great, if not it is not too late – simply let us know if you wish to receive your copy by email, pick up in the narthex, or continue through postal mail.
You may change your preference at any time.



FROM THE PASTOR'S DESK...

Dear St. John's Members and Friends,

All Together In One Place

In the month of May, here at St. John's Lutheran Church we will come together for many of life's celebrations.

There's Mother's Day where we honor the mothers of the congregation. Then the third graders receive their Bibles. We will gather for the celebration of three baptisms. On Pentecost Sunday, we celebrate this year's Joint Catechetical Class in worship together with St. John's Lutheran and St. John's United Church of Christ.

“When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place.” *Acts 2:1*

Sunday after Sunday we come together to celebrate life together.

God's Holy Spirit moves us as a reminder that all things come from God. It is in this conviction that we come together in this place we call church to celebrate these life events.

We are all together. We are all in agreement. We are all celebrating life. We are all praising God.

In this one place we call church, we come together to celebrate baptisms, confirmations, weddings, anniversaries, and funerals. We come together in one place for Bible study, Vacation Bible School, Catechetical classes. We come together in one place to serve Community Free Dinners. In fellowship with one another we come together to bake cinnamon buns and sip coffee.

The importance of these events is that we all come together to celebrate life in this one place.

Let us gather together in this one place we call church.

Peace,
The Rev. Nelson Quiñones, Pastor

HOSPITALIZED OR HOMEBOUND??

Please be assured that pastoral visitation and Home Communion are always available at St. John's. Contact us if you or a family member desires the sacrament or a visit.

OUR CHURCH HOSPITAL CODE IS: #281

Contact the church office and/or the pastor when you are hospitalized. Thank you to those who have been keeping us updated!

Mission Statement

We, the members of St. John's Lutheran Church, Fogelsville, desiring to be blessed together with Word and Sacrament and to become more perfectly the Body of Christ in the world, do hereby commit ourselves to a mission which involves: increasingly creative and meaningful worship; developing additional opportunities for Christian Education; intentional witnessing to our congregation and community; Christ-centered social ministries and; promoting a more effective stewardship program which helps people to become better aware of what we have to offer and where we have needs.

*"For God so loved the world that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believes in him shall not perish but shall have everlasting life."
John 3:16*



We email readings, prayers, and other resources each Friday so that you may reflect from home. Contact us to be added/removed from this list.

REMINDER... the service time will change to 9:30 AM beginning on June 4th!!!



Join us for worship!!!

We are no longer asking for people to sign-in for in-house worship. In order to remain in voting status as a member of St. John's we must have record of your communion at least once each year through the completion of a communion card (found in every pew). We ask that you please take a moment to fill out one of these cards if you have not already done so.

Sunday, May 7, 2023 – 5th Sunday of Easter

Acts 7:55-60 The martyrdom of Stephen

Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16 Into your hands, O Lord, I commend my spirit.

1 Peter 2:2-10 God's people chosen to proclaim God's mighty acts

John 14:1-14 Christ the way, truth, and life

Sunday, May 14, 2023 – 6th Sunday of Easter

3rd Grade Bible Presentation

Acts 17:22-31 Paul's message to the Athenians

Psalm 66:8-20 Bless our God, you peoples;
let the sound of praise be heard.

1 Peter 3:13-22 The days of Noah, a sign of baptism

John 14:15-21 Christ our advocate

Sunday, May 21, 2023 – 7th Sunday of Easter

Acts 1:6-14 Jesus' companions at prayer after his departure

Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35 Sing to God, who rides upon the clouds.

1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11 God will sustain and restore those who suffer

John 17:1-11 Christ's prayer for his disciples

Sunday, May 28, 2023 – Day of Pentecost

Confirmation

Acts 2:1-21 Filled with the Spirit to tell God's deeds

Psalm 104:24-34, 35b Send forth your Spirit and renew
the face of the earth.

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13 Varieties of gifts from the same Spirit

John 20:19-23 The Spirit poured out



Council Minutes March 13, 2023, at 7 pm

Present: Pastor Nelson, Mike Divers, Ken Divers, Neola Geschel, Cindy Graf, Lisa Herman, Mike Herman, Donna Kressin, Matthew Kressin, Brad Sell

Absent: Carol Moyer, Carla Malantonio, Curtis White, Jane White

Mike Divers called the meeting to order.
Pastor opened with prayer.

Council Meeting Minutes (February 13, 2023)

Cindy made a motion, seconded by Neola, to approve the minutes from the February 13 meeting. The motion carried.

Treasurer/Finance Report (February 2023):

Donna made a motion, seconded by Mike H., to accept the treasurer's report from February. The motion passed.

President's Report:

Discussion concerning the blink camera. Who shall monitor the hall cameras. Cindy Graf to assist Linda in this task. Camera will be turned off during AA for confidentiality matters.

Pastor's Report:

Pastor submitted a report, and it was reviewed by council. Highlights included Synod Assemble on June 1-3 to be held in the Poconos. Richard Ludwig-Dicus will be the male delegate and we still need a female delegate. Catechetical Letter sent to St. John's UCC. Joint Confirmation will be held on Sunday, May 28. April 10 and May 8

meetings we will interview candidates for confirmation. Motion by Lisa, seconded by Neola to accept the report. Motion passed.

Committee Reports:

Finance:

Property:

- Outside Exit Light by the fellowship hall needs to be repaired as stated by fire inspector.
- Boiler Inspection set for April 21 (for insurance purposes)

Christian Education/Sunday School:

- We have an average of 8-10 students on Sunday mornings (ages 3-6th grade)
- March 26 students to sing in church.

Youth Ministry:

Worship and Music:

- Beth Stottmeister will offer a selection of Lenten music on Wednesday morning at 10:30

Staff Support:

Evangelism:

Stewardship:

Ladies Aid:

- Fundraiser- Charlie K's pizza. Kit for 3 12-inch pizzas for \$20. Orders in by March 8 with delivery on March 24.
- April 17-18 Sticky bun sale. Had to raise the price to \$10 due to cost of ingredients going up. All proceeds to go to ministry at St. John's (current fund)
- May 3- Mother's Day banquet in our church
- June 4- Father's Day brunch following worship

Health and Wellness:

Old Business:

- Constitution and bylaws committee to meet.
- Coffee hours have resumed on 3rd Sunday of the month. Adult Sunday school will host on April 16.
- Council retreat on Tuesday, March 21 @ 6:00. Speaker: Linda Gery
- Facebook live has resumed.

- Donna Kressin will be added as a Bank check signer to replace Richard Ludwig-Dicus.

New Business:

Joint Worship Services with St. Johns UCC:

Mon, May 29 Memorial Day - Cemetery service at 10:30 A.M.

Sun, September 10 Worship and Church Picnic at 10:30 A.M.
at Breinigsville Park

Wed, Nov. 22 Thanksgiving Eve Worship - UCC to host

Sun, Dec. 3 - Community tree lighting at 6:00
at Church Street Park in Fogelsville

Next Council Meeting April 10, 2023 @ 7:00.

A motion was made by Neola, seconded by Cindy, to close the meeting. The meeting ended with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted by,
Donna Kressin, council secretary

All minutes from past meetings are available in the church office.



A Few Things to Keep in Mind:

✚ **Food Card Sales:** ½ of the profit from the food card sales will go towards the Restoration Fund, the other ½ will be sent to Second Harvest Food Bank. Thank you for your continued support of this fundraiser. Please see Dave Neimeyer to buy cards at church (Giant, Weis or Render’s), or stop by the office during the week to make a purchase.

✚ **Address Directories are available in the narthex.** You may also request a PDF copy by email.

✚ **Flowers & Bulletins:** Bulletins - \$15.00; Flowers - \$44.50 for two vases. Feel free to contact the office with any questions or special requests.

✚ **2023 Offering Envelopes** - are still available for pick-up. You may pick up a box (with your assigned number) for the year. Please feel free to take them to friends and family. Envelopes have been moved to the church office.

✚ **Weekly Email** - If you would like to be added, please send us a note to: stjohns.lutheran@verizon.net.

✚ **Methods of giving** include offering envelopes, bank bill pay, and through our website with credit/debit card. Info about the different forms of donation is on our website.

✚ In order to remain in **voting status as a member of St. John’s** we must have record of your communion at least once each year by home communion or at an in-house service. Please fill out a communion card, found in each pew.

✚ **Cookbooks** - \$10 each, please pick one up in the narthex The proceeds will benefit St. John’s Restoration Fund.

✚ **Redner’s Receipts** - We are still participating in the “Sav-A-Tape” program at Redner’s Market. Deposit tapes in the narthex.

Upcoming Events/Opportunities:

Mother/Daughter Banquet – will be held on Wednesday, May 3rd at 6:30 PM, HERE at St. John’s. Enjoy a fun filled evening for women and their guests. Family and friends are welcome. Dinner will be served buffet style, all you can eat. We can seat approx. 90 people so please make reservations early. See Jeanette Holtzhafer to purchase tickets, make reservations by 4/23. Tickets: \$16 for adults; \$8 for children 4-10; children 3 & under are free.



Geraniums are on sale now (to be displayed on Pentecost Sunday, May 28th). Cost - \$5.00 each. If you do not want any to take home, please consider buying one to be planted around the outside of the church! Sign-up in the narthex, deadline for orders is May 14th.

Community Free Dinners – Dinners will continue on the 3rd Friday, every other month (except November: 2nd Friday).



The next dinner will be held on May 19th, sponsored by Council. We still need a dinner sponsor for July – sign up in the narthex. Anyone interested in volunteering please call the church or contact Dave Neimeyer (dave@neimeyer.org or 484-378-2725) or Bob Neumoyer (570-386-3045 or nrch14@ptd.net).

Sunday School End-of-Year Party: May 21st at 9 AM

Community Memorial Day Service at the Fogelsville Union Cemetery - Monday, May 29th at 10 AM. Everyone is welcome – please join us.

Pines Dinner Theater – We have 25 seats reserved for the dates/shows listed below. Tickets are \$60 each, includes gratuity. Contact Neola Geschel to make reservations.



June 9th – “Route 66” (\$ due by May 21st)

December 9th – “Holly Jolly Christmas” (\$ due by Nov. 19th)

Summer Worship Time Change – Please note that we will be changing to our summer worship schedule (9:30 AM worship June-August, NO Sunday School) on June 4th.



Father's Day Brunch - We would like to invite everyone, especially the fathers (grand-fathers, fathers-in-law...all of you!) to join us after worship on Sunday, June 4th. Sign-up in the narthex for needed items.

We are looking for a female from the congregation (we already have a male volunteer) **to represent St. John's at these upcoming assemblies:**

Lehigh Mission District Spring Assembly
Sunday, May 7 - 4 PM at the Lutheran Center

Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod Assembly
June 1-3 at Kalahari Resorts in the Poconos

Contact the Church office or speak with Pastor Nelson if you are interested.

Thank You...

- ☞ To everyone who helped with and support the Cinnamon Bun Bake Sale. 484 orders were made and sold!!!
- ☞ To Curt White, Mike Divers, and the numerous workers who helped to repair the ceiling of the church sanctuary.
- ☞ To all our volunteers who continue to help during Sunday in-house services acolyting, welcoming visitors, reading, etc.
- ☞ To everyone who continues to support St. John's by donating online or on the app, through Simply Giving, or by mailing in your checks/envelopes! Special thanks to those who have designated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. John's Church.
- ☞ To everyone who is supporting the Restoration Fund and the Food Bank through the purchase of food cards.



In our mailbox...

Thank you for all of the goodie bags and for remembering me. I greatly appreciate the kind thought.

~ Debra Knudson





Youth Update

- ✠ **Be Our Facebook Friend!!** If you are on Facebook connect to your St. John's friends by searching "St. John's Lutheran Youth/Adult Group" to keep up to date! Send a friend request and we will add you to the group.
- ✠ We are still looking for any youth that may be interested in serving as **bell ringers, acolytes, or crucifers**. You can use SignUp Genius to chose a date to serve. Speak with Pastor Nelson if you are interested or contact the office for more info.
- ✠ **Sunday School End-of-Year Party:** May 21st at 9 AM
- ✠ **NO VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL in 2023.** We will be re-organizing and planning with the hopes to resume next year.

Also, check out the "Youth Page" on our website!!!



ATTENTION GRADUATES...

Please let us know if you are graduating from high school, college, business or technical school. We would like to honor all our graduates on Sunday, June 11th. Please call the office or email your info (let us know your name, name of the school you are graduating from, and your future plans)

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