

# ANNUAL REPORT

## 2023



*St. John's Lutheran Church  
Fogelsville, PA*



Evangelical  
Lutheran Church  
in America

## A MESSAGE FROM PRESIDING BISHOP ELIZABETH EATON



Dear friends in Christ,

Over the past year we have continued to experience changes in the world around us. Even as our church finds ways to adapt to this changing world, we find hope in the unchanging and always present promise of God's love through Jesus Christ. We change and adapt not to conform to the world but because we believe that the gift of God's Son is for the world, and that our congregations and worshiping communities are places to gather and be sent into the world, where we will tell the story of God's love in word and deed.

The ministries of our congregations, our synods and the churchwide organization provide ways for the church to move beyond the boundaries of structures and geography and to share God's love with people in our neighborhoods, our cities, our country and beyond. We engage in this ministry knowing that our church walks by faith, trusting in God's promise in the gospel, and that we exist by and for the proclamation of this gospel word. In John 15:5, Jesus reminds us, "I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing." We are connected by the promise that we do all through Christ and can do nothing apart from him.

God gives the Holy Spirit, who uses gospel proclamation — in preaching and sacraments, in forgiveness and in healing conversations — to create and sustain this faith. Just as we rely on God to sustain our faith, we rely on each other to sustain the ministries that offer God's love to the world. Through your generosity to each expression

of this church — your congregation, your synod and your churchwide organization — you add to our collective voice proclaiming God's love for all.

I am grateful for your generosity over this last year. My gratitude spreads far beyond your generous financial gifts. You've shared your gifts of time through countless hours of volunteering, serving and accompanying. You've shared the gifts of your voices as we've tried to discover and learn how God is calling us to be the church now and into the future. And, finally, dear church, you have shared the gift of the realness of God's love with the world around you. Be well, dear church, and stand steadfast in the promise of God's love and grace as you take that promise with you into the world.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Elizabeth A. Eaton".

The Rev. Elizabeth A. Eaton  
Presiding Bishop  
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

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“I am the vine; you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing.” —John 15:5

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# ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

1028 Church Street, PO Box 966 ♦ Fogelsville, PA 18051

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## Annual Report for 2023

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## ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING PRAYERS

We look ahead to the road we will travel together this year. We anticipate and receive with joy the new gifts God's love has planned. We pray for the grace to let go of what has served its holy purpose. When we are trailblazers or followers, when we are seekers or visionaries, when we must walk by faith and not by sight, we remember:

**God has called us for such a time as this.**

And so we pray: Grace our meeting, O God, with the gift of your Holy Spirit: the Spirit who has guided the church from the beginning, the Spirit of our risen Lord Jesus, the Spirit who sends us as healers and restorers of your beloved world. You are the source of our life together. You are the rock and cornerstone.

**You have called us for such a time as this.**

**O God,  
you have called your servants  
to ventures of which we cannot see the ending,  
by paths as yet untrodden,  
through perils unknown.  
Give us faith to go out with good courage,  
not knowing where we go,  
but only that your hand is leading us  
and your love supporting us;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord.  
Amen.**



## PASTOR'S REPORT

Dear St. John's Members,

In the letter to the Philippians we read, "*Rejoice in the Lord always.*"

In 2023, St. John's Lutheran Church rejoiced in the Lord in celebration of our ministry accomplishments. Here are some highlights. We rejoiced in celebration of my 10 year anniversary of ministry together at St. John's Church. We celebrated the confirmation of 11 Catechetical students as a joint effort with St. John's United Church of Christ. We dedicated an 1883 Martin Luther Statue that was installed with new landscaping at the front of the church. In addition, The Parkland Press published an article with pictures about the statue. With these and many more celebrations throughout the year we have rejoiced in the Lord. Following is my annual pastor's report.

## **Worship**

Sanctuary & Facebook Live Worship Services - 53

## **Hospital & Home Visitations & Pastoral Care**

Hospital & Home Visitation & Pastoral Care & Support - 97

The following homebound members have been visited throughout the year. In addition to sharing Holy Communion and the impositions of ashes, they've received the Annual Sunday School Children's Thanksgiving goodie bags and the Ladies Aid Christmas goodie bags.

Catherine Gery	Jean George	James Hersh	Marjorie Rossi
Rosa Ortiz	Debra Knudson	Barry Heintzelman	Harold Smith
Mary Ann Spengler	Nancy Neimeyer	Shirley Schimmel	

## **Catechetical Students Confirmed**

The Catechetical Class 2023 saw the graduation of 11 confirmands. The 2023 Confirmation Class was a joint church effort between St. John's Lutheran Church and St. John's United Church of Christ. Thank you to St. John's UCC Consistory President Mark Laudenslager for helping coordinate this joint endeavor. In addition, the Catechetical Class collected \$280.00 during the Souper Bowl of Caring. The proceeds went to support St. Paul's Food Pantry in Breinigsville.

Brady Furman	Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023	St. John's
Kayti Demko	Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023	St. John's
Emily Laudenslager	Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023	St. John's
Nora Garon	Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023	St. John's
Michelle Garon	Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 2023	St. John's
Miley Divers	Trinity Sunday, June 4, 2023	St. John's
Keira Sell	Trinity Sunday, June 4, 2023	St. John's
Anna Seyler	Trinity Sunday, June 4, 2023	St. John's
Avery Seyler	Trinity Sunday, June 4, 2023	St. John's
Natalie Conner	Trinity Sunday, June 4, 2023	St. John's
Mallory Conner	Trinity Sunday, June 4, 2023	St. John's

## **Funeral Services (\*Non-members)**

James R. Hersh, Sr.	January 25, 2023
Floyd "Honey" Moyer*	March 4, 2023
Catherine K. Morgan*	March 11, 2023
Jane M. White	April 14, 2023
Rosa Peña*	April 24, 2023
Leona J. Huttie*	June 30, 2023
Ana H. Velez*	July 5, 2023
Kathleen Transue*	July 7, 2023
Marjorie Rossi	July 8, 2023
Marianne C Hildebrandt*	July 22, 2023
Robert "Bob" J. Miller*	September 6, 2023
Jeffrey J. Hahn*	September 27, 2023
Frank Szukics	October 23, 2023

**Baptisms (\*Non-member)**

Emilio Buc*	February 5, 2023
Lennox Mark Lazarus	March 26, 2023
Jamison David Weaver	March 26, 2023
Hayden Elizabeth Olm	April 16, 2023
Delia Rose Garon	May 7, 2023
Macklin Thomas Garon	May 7, 2023
Michelle Ashley Garon	May 7, 2023
Noelle Hartrick	September 17, 2023
Anna Violet Correnty	October 15, 2023

**First Holy Communion**

Noelle Becht	April 6, 2023	Maundy Thursday Service
Addison Moyer	April 6, 2023	Maundy Thursday Service
Leyton Sell	April 6, 2023	Maundy Thursday Service

**Meetings & Events - 83**

**Lehigh Mission District Dean Meetings - 53**

See you in church,  
The Rev. Nelson Quiñones, Pastor

**Congregational Meeting Minutes – January 29, 2023 (following worship)**

Mike Divers established a quorum and called the meeting to order.  
Pastor Nelson led us in prayer.

A motion was made by Carla Malantonio and seconded by Cindy Graf to approve the agenda. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Neola Geschel and seconded by Carla Malantonio to approve the minutes from January 30, 2022 congregational meeting. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Peggy Kriebel and seconded by Carol Moyer to approve the 2022 Financial Reports. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Bonnie Kline and seconded by Ken Divers to approve the Team/Committee Reports and Statements. The motion carried.

A motion was made by Sue Reph and seconded by Mike Herman to appoint Bonnie Kline as the Endowment Fund Trustee. The motion carried. A HUGE ‘thank you’ to Bill Gery for his many years of service to St. John’s.

A motion was made by Christine Snyder and seconded by Robert Neumoyer to place the 2022 Endowment Fund interest into the General Fund. The motion carried.

Old Business:

Sexual Offender Policy was completed and approved by Church Mutual Insurance. A BIG 'thank you' to Richard Ludwig-Dicus, Cindy Graf and Lisa Herman for their hard work in formulating and completing this big task.

No other business.

A motion was made by Bonnie Kline and seconded by David Crooker to adjourn the meeting.

The meeting was closed with prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Carla Malantonio



## MEETING MINUTES

### **Congregational Meeting Minutes – November 12, 2023 (following worship)**

The meeting was called to order by President, Mike Divers.

The 2024 budget was discussed line by line, and questions were answered. There being no further discussion Diane Heintzleman made a motion, seconded by Dave Niemeyer, to accept the budget as proposed. The motion carried.

Mike then asked if there were any volunteers for the two openings on church council. He advised anyone interested should contact him.

Ken Divers made a motion to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Dave Niemeyer. The motion carried.

Respectfully submitted,  
Donna Kressin, Council Secretary

## CONGREGATIONAL MEMBERSHIP REPORT

<b>Baptized Membership at the end of 2022:</b>		<b>269</b>
<b>Baptized Members received during 2023:</b>		
a) By Baptism: children (15 yrs. and younger)	8	
b) By Baptism: adults (16 yrs. and older)	0	
c) By Affirmation of Faith	0	
d) By Transfer	0	
e) For other reasons and statistical adjustment	0	
f) Total members received this year	+	8
<b>Baptized Members removed during 2023:</b>		
a) By Death	4	
b) By Transfer	0	
c) For other reasons and statistical adjustment	0	
d) Total members removed this year	-	4
<b>Baptized Membership at the end of 2023:</b>	=	<b>273</b>

<b>Total Confirmed Membership at the end of 2023</b>	<b>207</b>
a) Number of people confirmed in 2023	11

<b>Voting Members</b>	<b>110</b>
(Confirmed members who have <u>record</u> of communion AND contribution within the last 2 years)	

Membership:	Beginning 2023	Beginning 2024
Baptized	269	273
Active/Confirmed	205	207
Associates	11	15
Giving Units	163	168

Your giving statements for 2023 have been mailed out. The last Sunday of the year was December 31<sup>st</sup>. If you mailed an envelope/check and it was not postmarked by December 31, 2023, it was recorded in January 2024. If you have any questions, please contact the office.

An inactive member is anyone who has not communed and has not contributed within 2 years. It is important that each confirmed member fill out at least 1 communion card a year and submit recordable income to remain in active, voting status. We typically reach out to inactive members on a yearly basis and then adjust our membership list. We hope that in the future they will contact us when they are again ready to become involved in their church through worship, communing, contributing, and hopefully volunteering. As always, the door is open for them, and we pray that they will come and worship with us again.

*During the COVID-19 pandemic we began recording communion based on in-house attendance. WE NO LONGER REQUIRE ATTENDANCE, PLEASE FILL OUT A COMMUNION CARD (found in each pew).*



**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Fogelsville PA**  
**Treasurer's Report as of December 2023 for General Fund**

Account #	Account Name	Previous YTD	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Over/Under YTD+(-)
<b>Expenses</b>					
<b>Benevolence</b>					
5.01.00.00	<i>Benevolence Expense</i>				
5.01.01.00	NEPA Synod	6,415.92	5,920.56	5,119.00	801.56
5.01.02.00	Lutheran Congregational Services	2,049.54	1,891.29	1,635.00	256.29
5.01.02.02	Christmas_Ingathering	150.00	150.00		
5.01.03.03	St. Paul's UCC Trexlertown Food Bank	837.37	874.33		
5.01.04.00	Lehigh County Conference of Churches	445.54	411.15	356.00	55.15
5.01.05.00	World_Hunger	340.00	537.00		
5.01.09.00	Our Daily Bread Ministries (firmly RBC)	100.00	100.00	100.00	0.00
5.01.13.00	Second_Harvest Food Bank	242.25	78.75		
5.01.13.01	Christ's Church at Lowhill_Food Pantry	951.43	1,009.34		
5.01.13.02	Parkland CARES Food Pantry	649.43	872.33		
5.01.15.04	Lutheran_Disaster Response	235.00	100.00		
5.01.23.04	In Lieu of Endowment Interest tithe	0.00	150.00		
	<i>Total Benevolence Expense</i>	<i>\$12,416.48</i>	<i>\$12,094.75</i>	<i>7,210.00</i>	<i>1,113.00</i>
	<b>Total Benevolence</b>	<b>\$12,416.48</b>	<b>\$12,094.75</b>	<b>\$7,210.00</b>	<b>\$1,113.00</b>
<b>Worship</b>					
5.02.01.01	Altar Supplies	835.70	365.70	300.00	65.70
5.02.01.04	Giving Envelopes	461.66	511.40	450.00	61.40
5.02.01.05	Bulletins_	108.10	102.99	150.00	(47.01)
5.02.01.06	Advertising	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.02.01.07	Flowers_	1,244.77	1,880.09		
	<b>Total Worship</b>	<b>\$2,650.23</b>	<b>\$2,860.18</b>	<b>\$900.00</b>	<b>\$80.09</b>
<b>Pastoral</b>					
5.02.02.01	Pastor's Salary	46,791.84	48,195.36	48,196.00	(0.64)
5.02.02.02	Pastor's Housing	22,000.08	22,000.08	22,000.00	0.08
5.02.02.03	Pastor's Social Security	5,698.32	5,814.48	5,815.00	(0.52)
5.02.02.04	Pastor's Pension, Death & Disability Benefits	10,577.64	10,413.48	10,413.00	0.48
5.02.02.05	Pastor's Health and Dental Benefits	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
5.02.02.09	Pastor's Automobile Expense	571.55	713.44	1,250.00	(536.56)
5.02.02.10	Pastor's Continuing Education	0.00	0.00	750.00	(750.00)
5.02.02.11	Pastor's Professional Expense	0.00	0.00	250.00	(250.00)
5.02.02.16	Supply Pastor	479.84	0.00	1,150.00	(1,150.00)
	<b>Total Pastoral</b>	<b>\$86,119.27</b>	<b>\$87,136.84</b>	<b>\$89,824.00</b>	<b>(\$2,687.16)</b>
<b>Other Staff</b>					
5.02.03.01	Organist - Director of Music	22,371.36	23,490.00	23,490.00	0.00
5.02.03.02	Supply Organist	300.00	150.00	400.00	(250.00)
5.02.03.13	Sexton	3,673.30	3,807.30	4,476.00	(668.70)
5.02.03.14	Administrative Assistant	29,937.97	28,980.14	29,380.00	(399.86)
5.02.03.15	Staff Social Security Expense	4,282.65	4,304.96	4,387.00	(82.04)
	<b>Total Other Staff</b>	<b>\$60,565.28</b>	<b>\$60,732.40</b>	<b>\$62,133.00</b>	<b>(\$1,400.60)</b>
<b>Administrative</b>					
5.02.04.01	Office Supplies	999.30	1,488.80	1,000.00	488.80
5.02.04.02	Subscriptions & Licenses	1,287.95	1,487.84	1,200.00	287.84
5.02.04.03	Miscellaneous Admin. Expense	412.88	75.00	100.00	(25.00)
5.02.04.04	Postage	786.80	823.20	750.00	73.20
5.02.04.05	Telephone	1,834.22	1,859.51	2,000.00	(140.49)
5.02.04.06	Internet	1,291.10	1,135.84	750.00	385.84

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Fogelsville PA**  
**Treasurer's Report as of December 2023 for General Fund**

Account #	Account Name	Previous YTD	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Over/Under YTD+(-)
5.02.04.07	Synod Assembly & Meetings	383.00	1,533.44	1,650.00	(116.56)
5.02.04.08	Payroll & Payroll Tax Preparation	1,022.94	1,298.81	1,000.00	298.81
5.02.04.09	Vanco	178.78	208.43	240.00	(31.57)
5.02.04.10	Church Staff Gifts	0.00	0.00	400.00	(400.00)
5.02.04.11	Web Hosting	0.00	277.90	300.00	(22.10)
	<b>Total Administrative</b>	<b>\$8,196.97</b>	<b>\$10,188.77</b>	<b>\$9,390.00</b>	<b>\$798.77</b>
<i>Utilities</i>					
5.02.05.01	Electricity	9,304.44	8,032.82	10,000.00	(1,967.18)
5.02.05.02	Heating Oil	10,200.69	4,680.00	7,480.00	(2,800.00)
5.02.05.03	Water	174.36	212.43	200.00	12.43
5.02.05.04	Sewerage	347.78	366.08	400.00	(33.92)
	<b>Total Utilities</b>	<b>\$20,027.27</b>	<b>\$13,291.33</b>	<b>\$18,080.00</b>	<b>(\$4,788.67)</b>
<i>Maintenance &amp; Repair</i>					
5.02.06.01	Church Building	1,852.31	2,177.29	1,500.00	677.29
5.02.06.02	Church Property (Snow removal, etc.)	0.00	0.00	500.00	(500.00)
5.02.06.03	Cemetery Association	594.74	697.44	600.00	97.44
5.02.06.04	Trash Hauling	289.75	320.00	300.00	20.00
5.02.06.05	Copier Lease & Maintenance	3,220.96	4,308.39	2,700.00	1,608.39
5.02.06.06	Other Office Equipment	837.97	0.00	100.00	(100.00)
5.02.06.07	Music Services	1,030.00	1,260.00	1,000.00	260.00
5.02.06.08	Paper & Cleaning Supplies	560.45	759.51	500.00	259.51
	<b>Total Maintenance &amp; Repair</b>	<b>\$8,386.18</b>	<b>\$9,522.63</b>	<b>\$7,200.00</b>	<b>\$2,322.63</b>
<i>Teaching Ministry</i>					
5.02.07.01	Sunday School	915.44	689.25	1,200.00	(510.75)
5.02.07.02	Vacation Bible School	0.00	0.00	400.00	(400.00)
5.02.07.04	Confirmation	53.10	380.08	200.00	180.08
	<b>Total Teaching Ministry</b>	<b>\$968.54</b>	<b>\$1,069.33</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>	<b>(\$730.67)</b>
<i>Other Ministries</i>					
5.02.08.01	Evangelism & Social Ministry	(428.99)	(170.41)	550.00	(720.41)
5.02.08.02	Stewardship	0.00	0.00	100.00	(100.00)
5.02.08.03	Worship & Music	435.71	676.00	600.00	76.00
	<b>Total Other Ministries</b>	<b>\$6.72</b>	<b>\$505.59</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>	<b>(\$744.41)</b>
<i>Insurance</i>					
5.02.09.01	Property Insurance	4,441.97	4,733.76	4,484.00	249.76
5.02.09.02	Worker's Compensation Insurance	644.50	645.00	650.00	(5.00)
	<b>Total Insurance</b>	<b>\$5,086.47</b>	<b>\$5,378.76</b>	<b>\$5,134.00</b>	<b>\$244.76</b>
<i>Food Cards</i>					
5.02.10.01	Food Cards SOLD	(5,450.00)	(1,550.00)		
5.02.10.02	Food Cards Purchased from Vendors	2,660.00	1,900.00		
	<b>Total Food Cards</b>	<b>(\$2,790.00)</b>	<b>\$350.00</b>		
<i>Miscellaneous</i>					
5.02.99.99	Food Card Profit Transfers	136.25	38.75		
5.20.00.00	Bank or Brokerage-Fees	0.00	35.00		
	<b>Total Miscellaneous</b>	<b>\$136.25</b>	<b>\$73.75</b>		
5.05.00.00	ERTC filing fees (funds loaned from Restoration)	0.00	7,400.00		
	<b>Total Expenses</b>	<b>\$201,769.66</b>	<b>\$210,604.33</b>	<b>\$202,921.00</b>	<b>(\$5,792.26)</b>

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Fogelsville PA**  
**Treasurer's Report as of December 2023 for General Fund**

Account #	Account Name	Previous YTD	YTD Balance	Annual Budget	Over/Under YTD+(-)
<b>Income</b>					
4.01.00.00	<i>Benevolence</i>				
4.01.01.00	Envelope Benevolence	8,098.00	8,223.00	7,210.00	1,013.00
4.01.02.00	World Hunger	340.00	537.00		
4.01.04.00	Souper Bowl Offering	149.94	282.00		
4.01.05.02	Food Bank Collections & Designations	711.00	270.00		
4.01.06.01	Harvest Home Display Items	150.00	160.00		
4.01.06.02	Adult SS Collections for Food Banks	533.00	407.00		
4.01.07.04	Lutheran Disaster Response	167.50	50.00		
4.01.07.12	Ukraine	67.50	50.00		
4.01.11.00	Christmas Ingathering	150.00	150.00		
4.01.18.00	Joint services loose plate collection	225.00	572.00		
4.01.26.00	CFD donations to be distributed to Food Banks	991.29	1,105.00		
	<i>Total Benevolence</i>	<i>\$11,583.23</i>	<i>\$11,806.00</i>	<i>7,210.00</i>	<i>1,013.00</i>
4.02.00.00	<i>Current</i>				
4.02.01.00	Envelope Current	132,800.05	155,782.70	195,710.00	(39,927.30)
4.02.02.00	Plate	4,396.10	4,974.16		
4.02.03.00	Special Envelopes	4,106.00	4,902.00		
4.02.04.00	Initial Envelopes	190.00	445.00		
	<i>Total Current</i>	<i>\$141,492.15</i>	<i>\$166,103.86</i>	<i>195,710.00</i>	<i>(39,927.30)</i>
4.03.00.00	<i>Other Contributions</i>				
4.00.15.20	Floyd Moyer Memorials	0.00	395.00		
4.00.16.20	Jane White Memorials	0.00	1,365.00		
4.00.17.20	Frank Szukics Memorials	0.00	1,104.52		
4.03.01.00	Facility Income	660.00	817.00		
4.03.02.00	Flowers	1,140.04	1,295.03		
4.03.03.00	Bulletins	60.00	90.00		
4.03.05.00	Thrivent CHOICE receipts	467.00	456.00		
4.03.10.00	Interest Income	2.72	3.01		
4.03.15.00	Donation from Ladies Aid (current expenses)	0.00	5,000.00		
4.03.15.02	Donation from Ladies Aid (Bake Sale Proceeds)	0.00	3,800.00		
4.03.15.03	Donation from Ladies Aid (Food Truck/Bake Sale)	0.00	1,361.00		
4.03.16.00	Endowment Earnings Received (% to tithe)	4,578.42	1,524.31		
4.03.16.01	Donation "in lieu of Endowment interest tithe"	0.00	150.00		
4.03.18.00	AmazonSmile Donations	107.93	95.65		
	<i>Total Other Contributions</i>	<i>\$7,016.11</i>	<i>\$17,456.52</i>		
		<b>\$160,091.49</b>	<b>\$195,366.38</b>	<b>\$202,920.00</b>	<b>(\$38,914.30)</b>
4.04.50.00	Sheppard Bequest Fund transfer (general expenses)	15,000.00	12,000.00		
4.04.60.00	Laudenslager Bquest Fd transfer (general expenses)	15,000.00	8,857.99		
4.05.00.00	Capital Gains or (Losses) General	0.07	2.70		
4.07.00.00	Miscellaneous General Fund	1,000.00	(998.33)		
4.08.00.00	<i>Misc. Transfers to General Fund</i>				
4.08.01.00	Loan from Restoration for ERTC	0.00	7,900.00		
	<i>Total Misc. Transfers to General Fund</i>	<i>\$0.00</i>	<i>\$7,900.00</i>		
	<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$191,091.56</b>	<b>\$223,128.74</b>	<b>\$202,920.00</b>	<b>(\$38,914.30)</b>
	<b>Difference</b>	<b>(\$10,678.10)</b>	<b>\$12,524.41</b>	<b>(\$1.00)</b>	



**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Fogelsville PA**  
**Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2023**

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Previous Year Balance	Amount Diff YTD
<b>Assets</b>				
<b>Embassy Accounts</b>				
1.01.01.00	General Checking-Embassy	0.00	3,202.18	(3,202.18)
1.10.01.00	Savings Acct-Embassy (Cntgcy/Bldg/Rest/Yth/Perry)	0.00	37,830.41	(37,830.41)
	<b>Total Embassy Accounts</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$41,032.59</b>	<b>(\$41,032.59)</b>
<b>New Tripoli</b>				
1.01.00.00	General Checking-New Tripoli	16,599.90	N/A	16,599.90
1.10.00.00	Savings Acct-New Tripoli (Ct/Bldg/Rest/Yth/Per/Em)	30,060.65	N/A	30,060.65
	<b>Total New Tripoli Accounts</b>	<b>\$46,660.55</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$46,660.55</b>
1.11.00.00	Investment in Food Card Program	1,850.00	1,400.00	450.00
<b>Sheppard Bequest Fund Accounts</b>				
1.50.01.00	Western Asset Govt Money Market Fund Class A	4,595.72	14,438.59	(9,842.87)
1.50.02.00	GNMA PL#003067M DTD 04/01/2001 6% MATY 04/20/2031	263.99	322.36	(58.37)
1.50.03.00	GNMA PL#003187M DTD 01/01/2002 6% MATY 01/20/2032	109.82	135.67	(25.85)
1.50.04.00	GINNIE MAE SER 2003-81 CLASS B 5.5% MATY 09/2033	3,332.91	3,968.19	(635.28)
1.50.10.00	GNMA REMIC TRUST 2013-06 BE 3% MATY 1/20/2043	33,342.15	33,342.15	0.00
1.50.12.00	GNMA POOL MA1149 DTD 12/19/14 3% MATY 07/20/2043	2,318.09	2,554.90	(236.81)
	<b>Total Sheppard Bequest Fund Accounts</b>	<b>\$43,962.68</b>	<b>54,761.86</b>	<b>(10,799.18)</b>
<b>Laudenslager Bequest Fund Accounts</b>				
1.60.01.00	Western Asset Government Money Mkt Fund Class A	404.83	7,743.15	(7,338.32)
1.60.12.00	GNMA REMIC TRUST 2013-06 BE 3% MATY 1/20/2043	42,166.93	42,166.93	0.00
1.60.14.00	GNMA PL MA1149 DTD 12/19/14 3% MATY 07/20/2043	2,607.82	2,874.24	(266.42)
	<b>Total Laudenslager Bequest Fund Accounts</b>	<b>\$45,179.58</b>	<b>52,784.32</b>	<b>(7,604.74)</b>
	<b>Total Assets</b>	<b>\$137,652.81</b>	<b>\$149,978.77</b>	<b>(\$12,325.96)</b>

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Fogelsville PA**  
**Balance Sheet as of December 31, 2023**

Account #	Account Name	YTD Balance	Previous Year Balance	Amount Diff YTD
<b>Liabilities</b>				
2.03.00.00	<i>Other Liabilities</i>			
2.03.05.00	Contributions to Community Free Dinners	1,105.07	991.26	113.81
	<i>Total Other Liabilities</i>	<i>\$1,105.07</i>	<i>991.26</i>	<i>113.81</i>
	<b>Total Liabilities</b>	<b>\$1,105.07</b>	<b>\$991.26</b>	<b>\$113.81</b>
<b>Fund Balances</b>				
3.00.00.00	General Fund Balance	16,348.08	3,373.67	12,974.41
3.10.00.00	Contingency Fund Balance (Current Expense Reserve)	108.79	82.81	25.98
3.20.00.00	Building Fund Balance	18,659.44	21,829.44	(3,170.00)
3.30.00.00	Youth Group Balance	1,755.18	1,755.18	0.00
3.41.00.00	Restoration Fund Balance (formerly Bell Tower)	6,102.29	9,918.53	(3,816.24)
3.50.00.00	Sheppard Fund Balance (Current Expense Reserve)	43,962.68	54,761.86	(10,799.18)
3.60.00.00	Laudenslager Fnd Balance (Current Expense Reserve)	45,179.58	52,784.32	(7,604.74)
3.70.00.00	Grace Perry Scholarship Balance	3,915.00	3,965.00	(50.00)
3.80.00.00	Emergency Shelter Relief Fund Balance	516.70	516.70	0.00
	<b>Total Fund Balances</b>	<b>\$136,547.74</b>	<b>\$148,987.51</b>	<b>(\$12,439.77)</b>
	<b>Total Liabilities and Fund Balances</b>	<b><u>\$137,652.81</u></b>	<b><u>\$149,978.77</u></b>	<b><u>(\$12,325.96)</u></b>

**St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Fogelsville PA**  
**Consolidated Fund Activity Report as of 12/31/2023**

Account #	Account Name	Beg Balance	Receipts	Disbursements	Transfers/JE's	End Balance
3.00.00.00	General Fund Balance	3,373.67	223,028.74	210,504.33	450.00	16,348.08
3.10.00.00	Contingency Fund Balance (Current Expense Reserve)	82.81	25.98	0.00	0.00	108.79
3.20.00.00	Building Fund Balance	21,829.44	4,344.00	7,514.00	0.00	18,659.44
3.30.00.00	Youth Group Balance	1,755.18	0.00	0.00	0.00	1,755.18
3.41.00.00	Restoration Fund Balance (formerly Bell Tower)	9,918.53	3,083.76	6,900.00	0.00	6,102.29
3.50.00.00	Sheppard Fund Balance (Current Expense Reserve)	54,761.86	1,320.82	12,120.00	0.00	43,962.68
3.60.00.00	Laudenslager Fnd Balance (Current Expense Reserve)	52,784.32	1,373.25	8,977.99	0.00	45,179.58
3.70.00.00	Grace Perry Scholarship Balance	3,965.00	150.00	200.00	0.00	3,915.00
3.80.00.00	Emergency Shelter Relief Fund Balance	516.70	0.00	0.00	0.00	516.70
<b>Total</b>		<b><u>\$148,987.51</u></b>	<b><u>\$233,326.55</u></b>	<b><u>\$246,216.32</u></b>	<b><u>\$450.00</u></b>	<b><u>\$136,547.74</u></b>

## St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Fogelsville, PA

### 2024 Approved Budget

	ADOPTED 2023 BUDGET	ADOPTED 2024 BUDGET
<b>BENEVOLENCE</b>		
Northeast PA Synod	5,119.00	5,119.00
Lutheran Congregational Services	1,635.00	1,635.00
Lehigh County Conference of Churches	356.00	360.00
Our Daily Bread Ministries	100.00	100.00
<b>TOTAL BENEVOLENCE</b>	<b>\$7,210.00</b>	<b>\$7,214.00</b>
<b>CONGREGATIONAL MINISTRY</b>		
<b>WORSHIP</b>		
Altar Supplies	300.00	300.00
Envelopes	450.00	450.00
Bulletins	150.00	150.00
<b>TOTAL WORSHIP SUPPLIES</b>	<b>\$900.00</b>	<b>\$900.00</b>
<b>PASTORAL</b>		
Pastor's Salary (Housing included)	70,195.47	71,641.33
Social Security	5,814.53	5,934.67
Pension, Disability & Death Benefit	10,413.00	10,084.00
Health and Dental Benefit	<i>Waived</i>	<i>Waived</i>
Pastor's Continuing Education	750.00	750.00
Pastor's Professional Expense	250.00	250.00
Pastor's Automobile Expense Reimbursement	1,250.00	1,250.00
Supply Pastor	1,150.00	1,150.00
<b>TOTAL PASTORAL MINISTRY</b>	<b>\$89,823.00</b>	<b>\$91,060.00</b>
<b>OTHER STAFF</b>		
Organist - Director of Music	23,490.00	24,195.00
Supply Organist	400.00	400.00
Sexton	4,476.00	4,073.00
Administrative Assistant	29,380.00	30,163.00
Social Security	4,387.00	4,553.00
<b>TOTAL OTHER STAFF</b>	<b>\$62,133.00</b>	<b>\$63,384.00</b>
<b>ADMINISTRATIVE</b>		
Office Supplies	1,000.00	1,000.00
Subscriptions and Licenses	1,200.00	1,200.00
Miscellaneous	100.00	100.00
Postage	750.00	550.00
Telephone	2,000.00	1,900.00
Internet Access	750.00	750.00
Web Hosting	300.00	300.00
Synod Convention/Meetings	1,650.00	1,650.00
Payroll Tax Preparation	1,000.00	1,000.00
Vanco/Simply Giving	240.00	240.00
Church Staff Gifts	400.00	400.00
<b>TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE</b>	<b>\$9,390.00</b>	<b>\$9,090.00</b>
<b>UTILITIES</b>		
Electricity	10,000.00	9,000.00
Oil	7,480.00	6,500.00
Water	200.00	200.00
Sewerage	400.00	375.00
<b>TOTAL UTILITIES</b>	<b>\$18,080.00</b>	<b>\$16,075.00</b>

*St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church*  
Fogelsville, PA

**2024 Approved Budget**

	<b>ADOPTED 2023 BUDGET</b>	<b>ADOPTED 2024 BUDGET</b>
<b>MAINTENANCE &amp; REPAIR</b>		
Church Building	1,500.00	1,200.00
Church Property	500.00	50.00
Cemetery Association	600.00	700.00
Trash	300.00	320.00
Copier Lease and Maintenance	2,700.00	3,745.00
Other Church Equipment	100.00	
Music Services	1,000.00	1,000.00
Paper & Cleaning Supplies	500.00	500.00
<b>TOTAL MAINTENANCE &amp; REPAIR</b>	<b>\$7,200.00</b>	<b>\$7,615.00</b>
<b>TEACHING MINISTRY</b>		
Sunday School	1,200.00	1,000.00
Vacation Bible School	400.00	400.00
Confirmation	200.00	200.00
<b>TOTAL TEACHING MINISTRY</b>	<b>\$1,800.00</b>	<b>\$1,600.00</b>
<b>OTHER MINISTRIES</b>		
Evangelism & Social Ministry	550.00	250.00
Stewardship	100.00	100.00
Worship & Music	600.00	600.00
<b>TOTAL OTHER MINISTRY EXPENDITURES</b>	<b>\$1,250.00</b>	<b>\$950.00</b>
<b>INSURANCE</b>		
Property Insurance	4,484.00	4,550.00
Worker's Compensation	650.00	650.00
<b>TOTAL INSURANCE EXPENSE</b>	<b>\$5,134.00</b>	<b>\$5,200.00</b>
Total Congregational Ministry Expenditures	\$195,710.00	\$195,874.00
<b>Total Expenditures (includes Benevolence)</b>	<b>\$202,920.00</b>	<b>\$203,088.00</b>







**ENDOWMENT FUND  
ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH  
FOGELSVILLE, PA**

<b>FINANCIAL STATEMENT</b>		<b>December 31, 2023</b>		
ASSETS		Total	604-203154 Non-Managed	604-090413 Managed
<b>Current Assets:</b>				
CASH		-	-	-
MORGAN STANLEY BANK, N.A. M/MKT FUNDS	0.01% M/MKT RATE	\$3,702.64	\$3,702.64	-
MORGAN STANLEY PREFERRED SAVINGS	0.05% PRFD RATE	-	-	-
US TREASURY NOTE 1.75% Matures 5/15/2023	1.75% NOTE	-	-	-
GNMA 414770X, 6.50%, Matures 10/15/2025	6.50% BOND	98.90	98.90	-
GNMA 421749X, 6.50%, Matures 8/15/2026	6.50% BOND	-	-	-
GNMA POOL MA0981, 2.50%, Matures 5/20/2028	2.50% BOND	1,068.57	1,068.57	-
GNMA POOL MA3912, 2.50%, Matures 9/20/2031	2.50% BOND	1,872.85	1,872.85	-
GNMA 003160M, 6.00%, Matures 11/20/2031	6.00% BOND	108.18	108.18	-
GNMA POOL 597767, 5.00%, Matures 3/15/2033	5.00% BOND	3,028.69	3,028.69	-
GNMA SERIES 2009-47 CLASS LT, 5.00%, Matures 06/20/2039	5.00% BOND	13,147.30	13,147.30	-
GNMA POOL MA0311, 3.00%, Matures 8/20/2042	3.00% BOND	1,962.46	1,962.46	-
MORGAN STANLEY SALT LAKE CITY UT 3.10% CD Matures 08/4/2023	3.10% CD	-	-	-
ZIONS BANCORP SALT LAKE CITY UT 5.20% CD Matures 11/24/2023	5.20% CD	-	-	-
JP MORGAN CHASE BANK 5.55% CD Matures 08/15/24	5.55% CD	19,000.00	19,000.00	-
US BANK NATL ASSN CINCINNATI OHIO 5.50% CD Matures 12/03/24	5.50% CD	16,000.00	16,000.00	-
MORGAN STANLEY ADVISORY ACCT 604-090413	Current Market Value	152,087.53	-	152,087.53
(Endowment Fund Principal of \$159,091.35 Invested in Managed Acct.)				
<b>TOTAL ASSETS</b>		<b>\$212,077.12</b>	<b>\$59,989.59</b>	<b>\$152,087.53</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>				
<b>Liabilities:</b>		<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>	<b>\$0.00</b>
<b>Equity:</b>				
Beginning Endowment Fund Principal from 12/31/2022		\$200,008.84	\$58,229.54	\$141,779.30
Less: Prior Year Net Earnings Transferred to Church Account		(1,524.31)	(1,524.31)	-
Morgan Stanley Equity Transfers (From Non-Managed to Managed)		0.00	0.00	0.00
Morgan Stanley Equity Transfers (From Managed to Non-Managed)		0.00	0.00	0.00
Plus: Current Year Memorial Fund Contributions (Hersh & White)		575.00	575.00	-
Net Endowment Fund Principal		199,059.53	57,280.23	141,779.30
MS ADVISORY ACCT 604-090413 Change in Principal Value		5,375.58	-	5,375.58
Current Year Net Earnings		7,642.01	2,709.36	4,932.65
<b>TOTAL EQUITY</b>		<b>\$212,077.12</b>	<b>\$59,989.59</b>	<b>\$152,087.53</b>
<b>TOTAL LIABILITIES &amp; EQUITY</b>		<b>\$212,077.12</b>	<b>\$59,989.59</b>	<b>\$152,087.53</b>
<b>INCOME STATEMENT</b>		<b>December 31, 2023</b>		
<b>Endowment Fund Earnings:</b>				
Money Market Interest		\$0.46	\$0.46	-
Preferred Savings Interest		0.00	0.00	-
United States Treasury Note Interest		131.25	131.25	-
Certificate of Deposit Interest		998.85	998.85	-
GNMA Bond Interest		1,026.82	1,026.82	-
MORGAN STANLEY ADVISORY ACCT 604-090413 Earnings		6,772.16	-	6,772.16
<b>Total Endowment Fund Earnings</b>		<b>\$8,929.54</b>	<b>\$2,157.38</b>	<b>\$6,772.16</b>
Plus: Gain on Treasury Note Redemption		672.03	672.03	-
Less: GNMA Current Face Value Adjustments		(0.05)	(0.05)	-
Less: MS Account Fees		(120.00)	(120.00)	-
MORGAN STANLEY ADVISORY ACCT 604-090413 Fees		(1,839.51)	-	(1,839.51)
<b>Net Endowment Fund Earnings</b>		<b>\$7,642.01</b>	<b>\$2,709.36</b>	<b>\$4,932.65</b>

**St. John Endowment Fund  
Managed Fund Account Analysis**

		Managed Account Invested Principal
<b>2021</b>		
6/24/21	Transfer of Principal from Existing Non-Managed Account	\$ 110,489.27
6/27/21	Memorial Deposit	\$ 150.00
7/22/21	Transfer of Principal from Existing Non-Managed Account	\$ 2,530.78
8/24/21	Transfer of Principal from Existing Non-Managed Account	\$ 4,473.31
8/27/21	Memorial Deposit	\$ 100.00
9/24/21	Transfer of Principal from Existing Non-Managed Account	\$ 8,279.40
10/24/21	Transfer of Principal from Existing Non-Managed Account	\$ 3,510.34
11/22/21	Memorial Deposit	\$ 50.00
12/24/21	Transfer of Principal from Existing Non-Managed Account	\$ 27,328.96
<b>(A)</b>	<b>Total Managed Fund Principal Invested in 2021</b>	<b>\$ 156,912.06</b>
<b>2022</b>		
1/19/22	Transfer of Principal from Existing Non-Managed Account	\$ 2,411.23
4/18/22	Transfer of Principal from Existing Non-Managed Account	\$ 1,131.88
2/3/22	Transfer of Principal Back To Existing Non-Managed Account	\$ (1,363.82)
	(Total Transfer of \$2,992.06 less earnings of \$1,628.24 = \$1,363.82 principal)	
<b>(B)</b>	<b>Total Managed Fund Principal Invested in 2022</b>	<b>\$ 2,179.29</b>
<b>(A + B)</b>	<b>Total Managed Fund Principal Invested @ 12/31/22</b>	<b>\$ 159,091.35</b>
	Current Market Value of Managed Fund Account @ 12/31/23	\$ 152,087.53
	Net Change in Value of Managed Account (Gain/(Loss))	\$ (7,003.82)
<b>ACCOUNT BALANCES VERIFIED (Signature and date):</b>		
<i>Stan Tantsits 01/03/2024</i>		

The mission of the St. John Endowment Fund Committee is to preserve and protect the donations made to the St. John's Endowment Fund and to prudently invest those funds in order to generate income to help support the mission of the church.



**FINANCIAL STATEMENT – LADIES AID**  
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church  
Fogelsville, PA

Balance on Hand January 1, 2023 \$10,197.96

Receipts:

\$1805 Pizza Kit sale  
\$350  
\$4805 Cinnamon Bun Bake Sale  
\$1049 Mother/Daughter Banquet  
\$3441 Pines Dinner Theater  
\$8088 Basket Social receipts  
\$761 Bake Sale with food truck  
\$75 bake sale  
\$15 Recipe book sales  
\$2.69 Year to date interest Total: \$20,316.69

Expenses:

\$1404 Charlie K's Pizza Kits  
\$379.40 Times News Advertising  
\$806.61 Bake Sales Supplies/starting cash  
\$3480 Pines Dinner theater  
\$1328.75 Mother/Daughter Banquet  
\$45.36 Funeral luncheon  
\$280 Anniversary celebration  
\$76.35 Confirmation coffee hour  
\$700 Basket social supplies/start cash  
\$16.98 Food truck posters  
\$65.00 Harvest Home supplies  
\$82.08 Propane for kitchen  
\$100 Children's gift bags/Christmas party Total: \$8893.08

Donations:

\$500 Needy Family  
\$3800 donated to St. John's Lutheran  
\$200 Fogelsville Fire Company  
\$761 receipt from food truck bake sale donated to church  
\$5000 donation to St. John's Lutheran  
\$350 Bright Hope Pregnancy  
\$350 Sharing Life Ministries Total: \$10,961

Balance on hand: \$10,735.57

Balance on hand as of 12/31/2023:

Embassy Bank  
Checking account: \$10,735.57  
Certificate of Deposit \$2,076.64  
Certificate of Deposit \$8,314.25

## **EVANGELISM – HOT DOG STAND**

On Friday October 27<sup>th</sup> St. John's once again offered free hot dogs, chips, sodas, juice, water and other treats to trick or treaters at our Halloween Hot Dog Stand in front of Strohl's Automotive in Fogelsville. Set up began about 4 pm as volunteers met at the church to load tables, a portable grill, the church banner, and supplies and move them to Strohl's. By 5:30 set up was complete and grilling started to be ready for the arrival of trick or treaters at 6 PM. Over the next two hours we gave out 240 hot dogs, over 100 packets of chips, and nearly 180 assorted drinks, setting a new record. Thanks go to Berks Meats, Bimbo Bakeries, Strohl's Automotive, cash donations from Keller Funeral Home and Keith & Kim Snyder, and our volunteers who donated food or drink items, or their time.

Submitted by Dave Neimeyer



## **STEWARDSHIP – COMMUNITY FREE DINNERS**

2023 was a very successful year for our Community Free Dinner program, with St. John's providing over 1,000 meals to the community. As in previous years we held the dinners in alternate months: January, March, May, July, September, and November. All were on the third Friday of the month, except for November, which was moved to the second Friday to avoid conflicting with Thanksgiving and the preparation of Thanksgiving sides. Distribution of meals was done by handing out individually bagged meals to patrons via drive-thru of the parking lot.

In January the entrée was a warming bowl of chili, along with a dinner roll, carrots and celery, applesauce, and a cookie. The dinner was sponsored by Shawn & Beth Furman. Shawn & Carol M. arrived early to turn on the gas to the ovens and gather the needed pots, pans and roasters for the chili and sauce. Volunteers arrived shortly afterward to cook the 30 lbs hamburger, brown the onions, open the cans of beans & sauces for the chili. Shawn combined the ingredients into pots for heating on the gas burners. The heated chili was put into rosters to simmer until we will be ready for serving. Our take out assembly line was set-up started by scooping the chili into plastic containers with

lids. The chili and apple sauce were put in take out bags and passed off the next table where the carrots sticks and celery, applesauce, rolls, oatmeal cookie, utensils and St John's welcome card was added before being put into the cooler for outside delivery crew. We started our outside food delivery at 4:30 PM. Our friendly staff along with Brady and Katie F. delivered the filled take-out bags to each waiting car. By 6:00 PM, we had given away all prepared dinners and had served 171 guests.

March's ham and string bean dinner was sponsored by Becky and Bob Neumoyer. Our kitchen helpers arrived early to slice onions and cook three pots of ham hocks, water and ham base, and to wash and cube 25 lbs. of potatoes. The rolls & desserts were bagged and the diced ham, potatoes and seasoning were added to the cooking pots. Later the string beans were added and simmered on the burners until being transferred into roasters. When all was ready, the ham & string beans were scooped into plastic containers. The lidded containers were put into take out bags along with the applesauce, rolls & homemade desserts. The utensils were added then the bags were put into the cooler for the outside delivery. Our outside food delivery crew along with Cassidy S. was bundled up for the zero wind chill...the more the wind continued to swirl the colder it got! You would never know it was only three days until spring! We saw an increase in early visitors with cars several times lining up out to the road, and by 6:20 PM we served our last take-out dinner.

In contrast to the cold and windy March, in May we had beautiful, beautiful, beautiful weather on Friday the 19<sup>th</sup> for our community free dinner sponsored by our Church Council. Our diligent kitchen staff prepared 190 take out bags with Bratwurst w/pepper and onion sauce, club roll, potato chips, apple sauce & Rice Krispie treats. Fun and fellowship was had by all. We continue to be a great outreach to the community! Thanks for all the time and effort that everybody put in, and we looked forward to our next dinner on July 21<sup>st</sup>!!

Meatball sandwiches were on the menu for July, along with pasta salad, applesauce, and Rice Krispie treats, sponsored by Jessica Wentz & St John's church. On Thursday morning July 20<sup>th</sup> volunteers made the pasta salad at church in preparation for the dinner. We did an estimate on how much pasta to make and even cut down on the number of boxes of pasta we added, but after adding the peppers, cucumbers, tomatoes and onions we still ended up with more pasta salad than expected! No worries...the extras were put into containers and were given to members in need and to our volunteers. THANK YOU to all our dedicated help! It feels pretty good paying it forward! This month our outside youth volunteers included Dave's grandson Noah and Matt Rosko.

In September St John's Ladies Aid sponsored and hosted our Community Free Dinner of chicken pot pie, applesauce, rolls and assorted packaged fruit pies. Preparation was pretty much as it was in March and July. The Ladies Aid members not only cooked and help serve our dinner but also provided many of the ingredients including the oven rosters and cartons of chicken broth and pasta. Thank you to Peggy Kriebel and Jennifer Demko for donating the fruit pies & Donnie Snyder for donating the potatoes. Outside, the line for dinners started early and continued steadily until 5:30 PM. There were times that cars were lined up out to the road. All who received dinners were very appreciative.

The November dinner finished out the year with turkey barbeque, mashed potatoes, corn, applesauce, and dessert. We distributed just under 200 meals. The drive-through included a recognition of veterans, thanks to Curtis White and Ruth from VFW Post 2124, who handed out small American flags.

In addition to our regular volunteers, we'd like to give a special thank you to Jeff Eisenhard who does traffic control to ensure the safety of our patrons. We'd also like to thank "Thrivent" for their monetary donation and the awesome T-shirts for our volunteers!

Although the Community Free Dinner meals are distributed at no charge, many recipients chose to make a donation to help St. John's continue this ministry. Consequently, after all expenses for the year have been paid from our account, we have an end of year balance of \$2210.07. Our volunteers voted to donate half of that amount to the three food banks we support (Parkland Cares, Lowhill, and St. Paul's) and retain the remainder to help fund the Community Free Dinner program in 2024.

Please help to keep our CF Dinner family growing by encouraging support from all our congregational friends & neighbors! We will begin our 2024 dinners on January 19<sup>th</sup> and continue on the third Friday of every other month throughout the year. The exception will be in November when our dinner will be the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of the month.

All organizations or individuals considering hosting a dinner in 2024 are reminded that that if they are not physically able to host the event they can simply provide the funds and our volunteers will do the rest. As always cooks & volunteers are needed! We'd suggest you sign up on the 2024 schedule as soon as it becomes available so you get your desired hosting date.

Regards,  
Dave Neimeyer, Becky & Bob Neumoyer

## **LADIES AID**

As always, the ladies have remained a very active group. We had a planning meeting on February 7<sup>th</sup> to plan the year's activities. We visited Catherine Gery at Topton Home for her 90<sup>th</sup> birthday. Catherine was our Treasurer of Ladies Aid for over 50 years. We had a group of eight members who took flowers, balloons, and cake, and had a very nice visit.

We were able to resume several activities we had given up during the pandemic, our Charlie K's Pizza Kit sale, Mother/Daughter Banquet, and Father's Day Brunch. We also attended 2 Pines Dinner Theater shows.

In April we held our Cinnamon Bun Bake Sale, which is a very successful fundraiser. August brought us a new venture as we scheduled a Vince's Cheesesteak food truck visit

along with a bake sale. Members supplied baked goods and the ladies baked pies. Wow, what a success! Vince sold out of cheesesteaks, and we sold out of baked goods by 3:30 PM. This was a fundraiser to benefit the General Fund of St. John's and has been scheduled again for August 2024.

We began basket assembly in August and September and scheduled several work sessions, which were very successful. We assisted Altar Guild in set up and sale of fresh produce for Harvest Home. \$185 was donated to the local food banks from the sale of produce from Harvest Home. We completed our baskets and had our most successful Basket Social ever. We sold out of all the soups, barbecue and baked goods, and after all expenses, we raised over \$7000.

October brought the Boscov's Friends Helping Friends sale. We sold \$250 of books and those proceeds will be used to purchase items for baskets for the 2024 Basket Social.

We assisted the choir in the Thanksgiving Sides Sale and helped serve all CF Dinners in 2023, and sponsored the September dinner of chicken pot pie.

December began again with the Lehigh Mission District Christmas Ingathering and providing 45 gifts for residents of Good Shepherd, Bethlehem and Topton Lutheran Home. We also collected items for Bright Hope Pregnancy Center and Sharing Life at St. Mark's Lutheran Church.

I spoke to the confirmation class about the Ingathering - how it began and why we continue this worthwhile project. They were very excited about putting the angels on our Angel Tree and eager to participate in buying gifts for our "angels". It was heartwarming to see them so enthusiastic!

We again sponsored our congregational Christmas party with a covered dish social and a visit from Santa. Children were given a goodie bag and our shutins were given goodie bags as well.

Thank you to everyone who donated items to the Ingathering and Angel Tree gifts, special thanks to all who packed everything and made deliveries.

Another successful year! Through your support, we have been able to raise funds to benefit St. John's, LMD Ingathering, local food banks, and various other charities in 2023. Ladies Aid donated a total of \$11,596:

\$10,261 to St. John's General Fund (includes Vince's proceeds)

\$1,335 to charities (includes Harvest Home proceeds)

Sharing Life, Bright Hope, food banks & Fogelsville Fire Company

Thank you for your continued support!

God's blessings for a safe and healthy New Year.

Carol Moyer, President

# MUSIC HIGHLIGHTS

John 8:12: "I am the light of the world..."

As a mirror reflects light, we reflect God's light (love) to others around us too!

- ♪ On December 10, the Sunday School children, choir and youth soloists reflected as they sang and read "Sing We Now of Christmas" - a beautiful and most wonderful performance given by all (especially the very youngest members of St. John's!)
- ♪ On Christmas Eve, the 4:00 pm service included beautiful musical duo renditions by a mother-daughter and duet by grandmother and granddaughter!
- ♪ On Christmas Eve, 10:30 pm service, we experienced "Silent Night" carol while holding the tiny candles in a dimly-lit sanctuary, voices joined, organ chiming, God's divine presence among us; the congregation shared God's light to all - an exquisite reflection indeed.

## Carols by Candlelight

*Edna Jaques*

Carols by candlelight-what lovelier thing  
could the wide realm of earth or heaven bestow  
than a dim church fragrant with evergreen  
and Christmas carols sung by candle glow?

The choir loft is dim, and shadows fall  
upon the pillars twined with fir and pine,  
and every nook and corner of the church  
holds little golden pools of candle shine.

The people listen as the music fills  
the high domed ceiling and the quiet stalls

as melodies, as old as Christmastime,  
echo within the fragrant sacred walls,

Glory to God! Peace, peace on earth, goodwill-  
the words float upward in the silent night  
while lonely hearts are lifted up once more  
in the soft atmosphere of candlelight.

In the warm atmosphere of song and praise,  
the lonely hearted and the tired sing  
the age-old melodies of Christmastime,  
of kings and shepherds and a newborn king.



More musical highlights of the year included:

- ♪ The special mid-lenten "Organ and Piano Reflections", a Wednesday morning time for prayerful meditation during musical performance of keyboards.
- ♪ In June an art-themed piano student recital, given by my studio of interested and progressing all-age piano students was held in the sanctuary at St. John's. This included an impressive display of all individually-painted canvases which represented the students' piano music performed. (Ages 4-16)
- ♪ The summer of 2023 hosted guest musicians during worship and included a few of St. John's youth soloists as the choir took a well-deserved break from singing.
- ♪ A special dedication of the newly-acquired Martin Luther Statue was held in November. Special organ compositions and hymns by Martin Luther dating from the time of reformation were featured throughout the service.



I wish to thank all of the solo musicians, St. John's choir, pastor Nelson, Sunday School children, youth soloists, and readers who helped create more meaningful worship through music this past year. May St. John's continue to spread the good news and let your light shine!

Musically,  
Beth C. Stottmeister  
Director of Music, St. John's

## **SENIOR CHOIR**

Our choral director, Beth Stottmeister, is to be highly commended for helping us to provide Christian music to the congregation and aiding us to instill fellowship, community, and the love of a church family.

We again were joined by St. John's UCC for a picnic (indoor), a Thanksgiving Eve service, and a community tree lighting (weather conditions led to a light attendance). We regretfully lost another member Jane White to the heavenly choir; we are so appreciative of the voices of Kayti Demko, Emma Luipersbeck, and David Crooker who agreed to help us for special music. We would be so blessed to have them join us permanently.

We invite any and all to join us either on a regular basis or as help for special music. Our rehearsals are held on Thursday evening at 7 p.m. and on Sunday morning at 10 a.m.

Neola C. Geschel

## **PROPERTY & FACILITIES**

Listed below are items I worked on throughout the year:

- I tested the smoke detectors.
- I tested the emergency lighting units monthly and replaced two old units.
- I did a walk through with the township fire inspector.
- I did a monthly test of the Church Mutual smoke and water leak detectors.
- The driveway and parking lot were repaired, the front sidewalk was repaired, the sanctuary ceiling was repaired by the Divers Group.

A special thanks to the Divers Group for their donations and support to the church property.

Submitted by Curtis White

## ALTAR GUILD

Members: Neola Geschel & Peggy Kriebel

God is with us 24/7. Looking for people willing to give back to him a few minutes preparing His house for worship. Most can be done Sunday morning before the service. If interested, please speak to me now or at any time throughout the year.

After the pandemic we returned to bread and wine, in place of pre-filled cups. A gluten-free option is also always available.

Altar flower and seasonal flower order sign-up continues. We thank all who still sponsored flowers and made arrangements for pick-up, or donation to shut-in members.

Peggy Kriebel

## SUNDAY SCHOOL/CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

With God's grace and love to guide us, another Sunday School year was completed in May and we ushered in a new year in September. We continue to use the SPARK Rotational model for our curriculum with all the students together in one group. This model works extremely well and the children enjoy the hands on learning of various Bible stories. We completed our Fall and Spring (Valentine's Day) homebound projects which were again received very well. Pastor usually has the children help him bless them before he delivers to our folks. Music Director, Beth continues teaching the children during Sunday School and the Christmas program "Sing We Now of Christmas" was wonderful. We have such talented children at St. John's and are very fortunate indeed. We invite any children ages 3-12 to join us Sunday mornings at 9:00 am in Fellowship Hall. We also have classes for confirmation age and adults. We hope to see you on Sunday!

Your teachers in Christ,  
Cindy Graf  
Jess Jackovitz  
Beth Furman  
Beth Kressin



## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

Church Office Phone: 610-395-5535      Email: stjohns.lutheran@verizon.net

Web: www.stjohns-fogelsville.org

### 2024 CONTACTS

#### **STAFF:**

**Pastor:** The Rev. Nelson Quiñones

**Administrative Assistant:** Linda Gery

**Director of Music:** Beth Stottmeister

**Sexton:** Beth Sell

#### **CONGREGATION COUNCIL MEMBERS**

##### **OFFICERS:**

President: Mike Divers

Ken Divers

Cindy Graf

V. P.: Mike Herman

Stacey Divers

Matt Kressin

Secretary: Donna Kressin

Kelsey Herman

Carla Malantonio

Treasurer: Keri-Ann Divers

Lisa Herman

Curtis White

Neola Geschel

#### **MINISTRY TEAMS/COMMITTEES**

*(Meet as Announced)*

##### **Christian Education/Sunday School –**

Council Contacts: Carla Malantonio  
& Cindy Graf

##### **Finance –**

Council Contacts: Lisa Herman  
& Keri-Ann Divers

##### **Team Ministry/Staff Support –**

Council Contacts: Donna Kressin & Ken Divers  
Contact: Christine Snyder

##### **Property –**

Council Contacts: Mike Herman  
& Curtis White  
Contact: Dave Newhard

##### **Ladies Aid –**

Council Contact: Cindy Graf

##### **Worship & Music –**

Council Contacts: Pastor Nelson, Neola Geschel  
Contacts: Beth Stottmeister & Peggy Kriebel

##### **Endowment –**

Council Contact:

##### **Youth Ministries –**

Council Contact: Pastor Nelson

##### **Evangelism –**

Council Contact: Mike Divers

##### **Stewardship –**

Council Contact: Ken Divers

##### **Wellness –**

Council Contact: Carla Malantonio

**AGENCIES:**

Synod Office: 610-266-5101  
Bishop Christopher deForest  
The Rev. Dr. Michael Bennethum, Ex. Assoc.  
The Rev. Rachael Dietz, Exec. Associate  
Lehigh Mission District: 610-966-3030  
The Rev. Nelson Quiñones, dean  
Lutheran Cong. Services Inc.: 610-770-9205  
Lehigh Conference of Churches: 610-433-6421

**OUTSIDE ORGANIZATIONS:**

AA Big Book - Andrea Smith  
(610-366-7766)  
meets Wednesday at 7:30 PM

**ACTIVITIES:**

Acolyte/Crucifer Training – Pr. Nelson  
Altar Guild – Peggy Kriebel  
Food Card Sales – Dave Neimeyer  
Lehigh Mission District Representative – Carol Moyer  
Maintenance of Hymn Boards – Peggy Kriebel  
Maintenance of Outside Sign – Rich Ludwig-Dicus  
Nursery Roll – Carla Malantonio  
Publicity – Cindy Graf  
Food Bank/Pantry Delivery – Dave Neimeyer  
Sr. Choir – Beth Stottmeister  
Sr. Citizen Birthday Cards – Linda Gery  
Thrivent Representatives – Carol Moyer, Sarah Romig, Jen Rosko  
Vacation Bible School – Sharon Snyder, Bob Neumoyer  
Worship Volunteer Scheduling – Linda Gery

**EVENTS:**

Attic Treasure Sale (May, usually every other year) – Carla Malantonio, coordinator  
Bake Sale (April) – sponsored by Ladies Aid  
Basket Social (September/October) – sponsored by Ladies Aid  
Christmas Craft Night (November) – Rich & Jeff Ludwig-Dicus, coordinators  
Christmas Pageant/Cantata/Program (December) – Beth Stottmeister  
Christmas Party (December) – sponsored by Ladies Aid  
Christmas Caroling (December) – sponsored by Choir  
Community Christmas Tree Lighting (December) – sponsored by Worship & Music  
Community Free Dinners (every other month) – Bob & Becky Neumoyer, Dave Neimeyer  
Congregational Picnic (September) – sponsored by Congregation Council  
Easter Egg Hunt (March/April) – sponsored by Sunday School  
Father's Day Brunch (June) – sponsored by Ladies Aid  
Halloween Hot Dog Stand (October) – sponsored by Evangelism  
Homemade Thanksgiving Sides Sale (November) – sponsored by Choir  
LMD Ingathering (November) – sponsored by Ladies Aid  
Mother's/Father's Day Gifts (May & June) – sponsored by Sunday School  
Mother/Daughter Banquet (May) – sponsored by Ladies Aid  
Rally Day (September) – sponsored by Sunday School  
Souper Bowl Sunday (February) – sponsored by Youth Group  
Vacation Bible School (Summer, usually July) – sponsored by Christian Education  
Youth Group (as announced)