

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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July 2024

COMING IN JULY:

June 30-July 7: Pastor on vacation

July 7: Hymn Sing

July 14: Baptisms

July 19: Community Free Dinner

July 20: Vacation Bible School Day



LOOKING AHEAD...

8/15 – Vince's Cheesesteak Food Truck

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,

Loving

Prior to 1967 if you were an interracial couple in the United States, you were not allowed to get married in many states.

That's 57 years ago that interracial marriages between a person of color and whites could not get married in the United States.

What happened if an interracial couple did get married outside of their state?

In Easton, Pennsylvania, a Jewish woman married a Black man. Here's the account from the Easton Express Newspaper:

“Family and the law 100 years ago saw problems with blacks marrying whites, at the time when some states had laws which outright prohibited this “miscegenation.”

“Two accounts in June 1884 relate how Pauline Lewis, “the Jewess” and John Good, “the mulatto,” eloped from Easton and got married in New York. When they return, her enraged father had them both arrested and jailed, him for surety of the peace and her with being incorrigible.”

“At a crowded magistrate's hearing, women in the Lewis family “cursed Pauline and Good in the most unrestrained manner. Pauline's father gave Good a punch in the mouth before Good's friends broke it up.”

“Two days later, Good had posted bail and Pauline was free because her father dropped the charges against her. Pauline was told to choose between her father's family and Good.”

“I love Good a thousand times more than you,” she said. She moved her clothing and effects to Good’s home. Her family disowned her.”

Jailed. Punched. Disowned. Anti-miscegenation laws were public humiliation attacks on interracial marriages.

While some states granted Blacks and Whites could marry one another, some churches, too, allowed interracial couples in worship without being turned over to the authorities. Parish records from the former Christ Lutheran Church, Easton appears to have had interracial couples worshipping during the mid-1860’s and baptized their mixed-race children.

The case that brought interracial laws to the United States Supreme Court was the Loving v. Virginia case where Mildred Loving (a black woman) and Richard Loving (a white man) were arrested for getting married.

The Supreme Court decision in the case struck the remaining states’ anti-miscegenation laws as unconstitutional. Since 1967 interracial couples were allowed as their right to marry who they love.

I wrote this in loving memory to Pauline and John Good, Mildred and Richard Loving, and to all interracial couples.

With Love,
The Rev. Nelson Quiñones,
Pastor

Easton Express Newspaper.
“Easton Woman Recalls Heritage:
A Mixed Marriage”
Morning Call, February 10, 1985.



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.

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



Join us for 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.



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.

PLEASE NOTE: Both in-house services and Facebook Live begin at 9:30 AM on Sunday. Sunday School will resume in the fall.

Pastor Nelson will be on vacation 6/30-7/7.

You may contact the office in case of an emergency.

The Rev. Richard Bauman will be covering and can be reached at 610-821-1999. NO Facebook Live while Pastor Nelson is away.

Sunday, July 7, 2024 – 7th Sunday after Pentecost

HYMN SING

Ezekiel 2:1-5 The call of Ezekiel

Psalms 123 Our eyes look to you, O God,
until you show us your mercy.

2 Corinthians 12:2-10 God's power made perfect in weakness

Mark 6:1-13 Sending of the Twelve to preach and heal

Sunday, July 14, 2024 – 8th Sunday after Pentecost

Holy Baptism

Amos 7:7-15 The sign of the plumb line: God's judgment on Israel

Psalms 85:8-13 I will listen to what the Lord God is saying.

Ephesians 1:3-14 Chosen in Christ to live to the praise
of God's glory

Mark 6:14-29 The death of John the Baptist

Sunday, July 21, 2024 – 9th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 23:1-6 From David's line, a righteous shepherd for Israel

Psalms 23 The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not be in want.

Ephesians 2:11-22 Reconciled to God through Christ, our peace

Mark 6:30-34, 53-56 Christ healing the multitudes

Sunday, July 28, 2024 – 10th Sunday after Pentecost

2 Kings 4:42-44 Elisha feeding a hundred people

Psalms 145:10-18 You open wide your hand and satisfy the desire
of every living thing.

Ephesians 3:14-21 Prayer for wisdom, strength,
and Christ's indwelling

John 6:1-21 Christ feeding the five thousand



Council Minutes May 6, 2024, at 6:30 pm

Present: Pastor Nelson, Mike Divers, Ken Divers, Keri Ann Divers, Stacey Divers, Neola Geschel, Cindy Graf, Kelsey Herman, Lisa Herman, Mike Herman, Donna Kressin, Matthew Kressin, Carla Malantonio.

Absent: Curtis White

Mike Divers called the meeting to order.

Pastor led us in prayer.

Council Meeting Minutes from April 8, 2024

Neola made a motion, seconded by Ken, to approve the minutes from the April 8 meeting. The motion carried.

Treasurer/Finance Report (April 2024)

Carla made a motion, seconded by Cindy, to approve the financial reports. The motion carried.

President's Report:

The brick on the outside of the building needs to be sealed. The thermostat in the elevator mechanics room is malfunctioning.

Pastor's Report:

- Synod Assembly- June 8th from 8:30- 4:30
 - Male delegate: Richard Ludwig-Dicus, no female delegate
- Confirmation is set for May 19th. Catechetical class gifts have been ordered and are ready for pickup. The council will interview the candidates at their June meeting for feedback /future of the confirmands.
- Vacation dates: off Sundays June 30th and July 2. Richard will cover June 30th and we will have a hymn sing on July 7th.

Committee Reports:

Finance:

Property:

- The dishwasher and mixer in the kitchen were checked by The Restaurant Store. The mixer is fine but the dishwasher is beyond repair. It is leaking and too old for parts needed for repair.
- We are waiting for a brick coating proposal from Machemer Contracting.

Christian Education/Sunday School:

- Sunday School end of year party on May 19th
- Confirmation and reception on May 19th
- Vacation Bible school has a date – Saturday, July 20, 2024, from 9-3. Theme, curriculum, and registration TBD.

Youth Ministry:

Worship and Music:

- Memorial Day service at the Fogelsville Cemetery May 27th at 10:00 AM
- Worship time changes to 9:30 AM on June 2nd.
- Choir's last Sunday is June 9th (off for the summer)

Staff Support:

- Staff reviews coming.

Evangelism:

Stewardship:

- Community Free Dinner sponsorship is complete. Our next dinner is 5/17/24 sponsored by Curtis and Carl White. (pulled pork and mac and cheese)

Ladies Aid:

- Mother-daughter banquet is scheduled for May 8th at 6:30 PM here at St. John's.
- Father's Day Brunch is on June 9th following worship.

Constitution & Bylaws report:

Old Business:

- Website rebuild by Enter.Net is complete. The new site is now live.
- Coffee hour schedule will be completed by Neola.
- Health procedures- the list is posted in the narthex closet: tool bag added.

- 150th Anniversary of the Laying of the Cornerstone & 190th Anniversary of the Founding of the Church- plan for October 27th Reformation Day celebration? Coffee hour or potluck lunch.
- Inactive members removed from the rolls.

New Business:

- Thanking our Sunday School teachers and choir on June 9th Carla made a motion, seconded by Neola to purchase items to thank the teachers/choir. The motion passed.
- Dieter Brothers- Better Way Plan will renew June 1st unless we want to make any changes. We have a credit of \$236.82 to apply to next year. Carla made a motion, seconded by Cindy, to renew the contract. The motion carried.
- The copier lease will end this summer Stratix has provided a proposal with 2 options, including full color printing capabilities. We need to make a choice soon to ensure new equipment is ready to swap out. Lisa made a motion, seconded by Matthew, to choose the cheaper option (\$181.91 month). The motion passed.

Next Council Meeting-June 10 at 7:00 PM

A motion was made by Stacey, seconded by Kelsey 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 Redner's), or stop by the office during the week to make a purchase.

✝ **2024 Address Directories are available in the narthex.** You may also request a PDF copy by email.

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

✝ **Flowers & Bulletins:** Bulletins - \$15.00; Flowers - \$48.00 for two vases (*note the increased price*). Feel free to contact the office with any questions or special requests.

✝ **2024 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.

✝ **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** – now \$5 each, please pick one up in the narthex or Fellowship Hall. The proceeds will benefit the 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:

St. John's will once again be a drop off point for **Plant-A-Row**



Lehigh Valley. Drop off home grown vegetable and fruit donations on Mondays between 8 AM and 6 PM, now through the end of the growing season. There will be a cooler outside the main office door for

donations. Donated produce will go to St. Paul's food pantry in Trexlertown. Please direct all questions to Beth Furman at 484-217-2197.

Community Free Dinners – Dinners will continue on the 3rd Friday, every other month (except November- 2nd Friday). Dinners begin at 5 PM, while supplies last! The next dinner will be held on July 19, 2024 – sponsored by Jessica Wentz. 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 nrich14@ptd.net). *Cash donations or purchased items will be gladly accepted from donors who possibly would like to help but are unable to attend for prep and serving.*

Join us for Vacation Bible School: Saturday, July 20th from 9



AM to 3 PM. We will be having a one-day program this year- filled with stories, games, music, crafts, lunch and more! We hope you can join us – sign-up in the narthex so we know you are coming! (Students ages 5-12 may participate, teens may volunteer to be

helpers) Registration forms are in the narthex - due by July 8th. A VBS planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, July 2nd at 7 PM.

Basket Social – Even though our annual Basket Social is not until October 4th & 5th, it is not too early to start planning! We are also starting to distribute letters for donations - please let us know if you are aware of a business that would be interested in donating, or if you would be willing to spread the word. A sign-up sheet for baskets and needed items is in the narthex. Monetary donations may be handed to Jeanette Holtzhafer or Carol Moyer. Keep watching for more info – help is needed.







Boscov's Friends Helping Friends shopping passes are now available for Tuesday, October 22nd, 8 AM-11 PM (IN-STORE ONLY). Your donation of \$5 to St. John's Ladies Aid will entitle you to receive 25% off most items purchased that day. This is a great way to begin holiday shopping! See any Ladies Aid member to purchase one.

Pines Dinner Theater – We have 25 seats reserved for the dates/shows listed below. *Please note the new location: Shops at Cedar Point, 315 S. Cedar Crest Blvd., Allentown* Tickets are \$70 each (includes dinner, show and gratuity). Contact Neola Geschel with any questions or to make reservations.

October 11th at 6:30 PM – “Always...Patsy Cline”

December 6th at 6:30 PM – “White Christmas”

Thank You...

-  To our Choir Members and Director of Music, Beth for sharing your musical talents throughout the year. We look forward to hearing your voices again in fall. Enjoy the summer!
-  To the Ladies Aid members who planted the geraniums around the outside of the church, and to those who donated the flowers.
-  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, through Simply Giving, or with your checks/envelopes!
-  To everyone who is supporting the Restoration Fund and the Food Bank through the purchase of food cards.
-  To all who have designated their Thrivent Choice Dollars to St. John's Church.

TEMPLE TALKS

*As a part of Stewardship, we like to highlight stories from our members about their financial offerings, as well as their gifts of time and talents. In case you missed the presentation from **Carla Malantonio in April**, please read below. If you are interested in sharing YOUR story, contact the church office.*

Hello all, I'm here today to talk about why I tithe to St. John's Church or as I like to call it, "investing in our future, today and yesteryear". I use the online banking payment option which automatically deducts my monthly tithing to St. John's. That way, I never forget to send my donation. No matter where I am, St. John's gets paid.

Our family joined St. John's church when we moved to Fogelsville in 1991. I knew that we needed to connect with our community and meet our neighbors. Our family was young and very busy with school and extra events, crazy work schedules-I worked 12 hr night shifts, hubby worked all day. From Monday through Saturday, we hurried through meals and days and nights to keep our schedules and to keep up with the demands of life.

Sunday was for the Lord and for family and started first thing in the morning. Sunday school and church-spending the morning with our church family. Church was here for my family every single week, rain or shine. It was like we invested in church and God invested in us. It nourished our souls. It was necessary to prioritize what was important in life and to celebrate with gratitude in word, prayer, and song. Church nurtured our souls and fed us for the week to come. We also supported, volunteered and participated in the extra activities that St. John's offered. It kept us connected and strengthened our bonds with folks who came from far and near to be together on Sundays and for special occasions. Church made for wonderful memories and times spent together. It's a big life bonus to have a loving and supportive community.

I'm investing in St. John's church future, today and yesteryear to keep our community and church mission going. I want to keep the world, or at least a small part of it, "like it was"-and at least preserve 'community values' a little while longer. I believe that St. John's mission, like Jesus's mission, is to take the time to show love, help and share our gifts and spend time with our neighbors both new and old, from all walks of life and across generations. I'm investing in our children's children, so that when they grow up, they remember, 'how great it was, they remember the stories, remember the kindness and the fun, when they were children at church. I'm investing in our children, so they can feel love and kindness, work and talk with elders, to keep part of the past alive, and take it into the future. I'm investing in our elders, to show them that we remember them, we love them, and we are grateful for the past that they gave us. We promise not to forget the many lessons they gave and shared with us.

There's over 150 years of church family history in this St. John's church and building. 150 years of people investing in their community from this church alone, making a difference to the area and people. I've been a member for 33 years. I remember the 'way it was' and here's what I see. We are still the same community of faith, maybe different members, but still the same. We come together, to worship, to pray and for a precious amount of time, we nurture ourselves and each other and lead by example and have fun helping our community.

That's why I continue to invest in St. John's church and mission. I will do what I can to keep St. John's good works thriving and growing in the years to come. I'm investing in the 'continued way it was, today's church needs and for the tomorrows to come. Thanks for listening and help me keep the doors to St. John's open and its mission to continue for generations to come.

Thank you Carla!!!



Youth Palate

- ✦ **Be Our Facebook Friend!!** Connect to your St. John's friends by searching "St. John's Lutheran Youth/Adult 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.
- ✦ Mark your calendars for **Vacation Bible School**: Saturday, July 20th from 9 AM to 3 PM. We will be having a one day program this year, we hope you can join us! Register by July 8th.



CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATES:

- ✦ **Madison Divers** – graduated from Northwestern Lehigh High School. She will be attending Millersville University in the fall.
- ✦ **Peyton Neumoyer** – graduated from Northwestern Lehigh High School. She will be attending community college in the fall.
- ✦ **Timothy Zellner** – graduated from Northwestern Lehigh High School. He will be attending Kutztown University in the fall.

LUTHERAN DISASTER RESPONSE MIDDLE EAST CRISIS

ELCA.org/disaster

As the conflict between Hamas and Israel continues, the humanitarian crisis in the Holy Land continues to worsen. More than half of Gaza's residents are displaced, and resources such as food, water and medical supplies are in short supply. The death toll has far surpassed those of previous conflicts in the region in recent decades.

The ELCA has a longstanding relationship with partners in the region, including Augusta Victoria Hospital and the Evangelical Lutheran Church

in Jordan and the Holy Land. Lutheran Disaster Response is supporting these partners and others in providing emergency humanitarian aid, healthcare and psychosocial support.

Gifts to Lutheran Disaster Response equip us to respond to this and other disasters, whenever and wherever they strike. Gifts designated for "Middle East Crisis" will be restricted to and used in full (100%) for those affected by disasters in the region.

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Yes, I want to help!

- Lutheran Disaster Response: Where needed most \$ _____ DDG0010
 Lutheran Disaster Response: Middle East Crisis \$ _____ IDG0038

Name _____

Address _____

City _____ State _____ ZIP code _____

Email address _____

Give through your congregation or make your check out to
Lutheran Disaster Response and send to:

**Evangelical Lutheran Church in America, ELCA Gifts Processing Center,
P.O. Box 1809, Merrifield, VA 22116-8009** and write "Where needed most" or
"Middle East Crisis" on your check's memo line.



Evangelical
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in America

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