

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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September 2024

COMING IN SEPTEMBER:

September 1: worship time returns to 10:30 AM

September 8: Outdoor Worship & Picnic

September 15: Rally Day & Harvest Home

September 20: Community Free Dinner

September 24: Basket Assembly



LOOKING AHEAD...

10/4 & 5 – Fall Basket Social

10/11 – Pines Dinner Theater

10/25 – Halloween Hot Dog Stand

10/27 – 150th Anniversary Celebration & Coffee Hour

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,

You Are Invited!

As September nears, the summer season is coming to its end and the fall season is now coming upon us.

Parents are getting backpacks together with pencils, books, and computers for their children who are returning back to school. First year freshman and returning students have been dropped off to their college dorms.

Some families may squeeze one last cookout with family and friends. Maybe a mini vacation may yet be put on the calendar in September to celebrate Labor Day.

We are back to school, back to church, and back to sports activities. Here are some highlights from what your home church has on the calendar in September:

- Worship Time Returns to 10:30 A.M.
Sunday, September 1, 2024
- Choir Rehearsals
Thursday, September 5th at 7:00 P.M.
- Outdoor Worship Service & Picnic
Sunday, September 8th at 10:30 A.M.
Earl Adams Park in Breinigsville
(In the event of rain the event will be held at St. John's Lutheran Church)
- Council Meeting
Monday, September 9th at 7:00 P.M.
- Rally Day
Sunday, September 15th at 9:00 A.M.

- Catechetical Class Orientation
Sunday, September 15th at 9:00 A.M.
- Harvest Home Sunday
Sunday, September 15th
- Community Free Dinner
Friday, September 20th from 5-7:00 P.M.

We look forward to seeing you,
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.

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.

REMINDER: Both in-house services and Facebook Live will return to 10:30 AM on 9/1/24. Sunday School will resume 9/15/24.



Sunday, September 1, 2024 – 15th Sunday after Pentecost

Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-9 God's law: a sign of a great nation

Psalms 15 Lord, who may dwell in your tabernacle?

James 1:17-27 Be doers of the word, not hearers only

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23 Authentic religion

Sunday, September 8, 2024 – 16th Sunday after Pentecost

OUTDOOR WORSHIP & PICNIC

Isaiah 35:4-7a Like streams in the desert,

God comes with healing

Psalms 146 I will praise the Lord as long as I live.

James 2:1-10 [11-13] 14-17 Faith without works is dead

Mark 7:24-37 Christ healing a little girl and a deaf man

Sunday, September 15, 2024 – 17th Sunday after Pentecost

RALLY DAY & HARVEST HOME

The church uses agricultural language. As disciples, we plant, water and sow. And we are those whom the triune God plants, waters and sows. This language appears throughout Scriptures and it is an occasion to live in these images.

Sunday, September 22, 2024 – 18th Sunday after Pentecost

Jeremiah 11:18-20 The prophet led like a lamb to slaughter

Psalms 54 God is my helper; it is the Lord who sustains my life.

James 3:13—4:3, 7-8a The wisdom from above

Mark 9:30-37 Prediction of the passion

Sunday, September 29, 2024 – 19th Sunday after Pentecost

Numbers 11:4-6, 10-16, 24-29 The Lord's spirit comes upon seventy elders

Psalms 19:7-14 The commandment of the Lord gives light to the eyes.

James 5:13-20 Prayer and anointing in the community

Mark 9:38-50 Warnings to those who obstruct faith



Council Minutes - July 8, 2024, at 7:00 pm

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

Absent: Mike Divers, Ken Divers, Stacey Divers, Kelsey Burian-Miller, Curtis White

Visitors: Hayden Schmidt, Lisa Schmidt

Mike Herman called the meeting to order.

Pastor led us in prayer. He also presented a reading called *Loving* about the history of interracial marriage

Confirmand Interview

Hayden was interviewed by the council members. A sampling of some questions included the following:

What church activity did you volunteer to help with?

Which learning format did you prefer?

What was your experience when visiting other church denominations?

How are you going to continue to participate at St. John's Church?

What would you change about the catechetical program if you could?

Hayden gave the council many thoughtful insights into the program and ideas for the future.

Council Meeting Minutes from June 10, 2024

Carla made a motion, seconded by Cindy, to approve the minutes from the June 10th meeting. The motion carried.

Treasurer/Finance Report (June 2024)

Donna made a motion, seconded by Neola, to approve the financial reports. The motion carried.

President's Report:

Pastor's Report:

Report included new members, worship services, meetings, and visits.

Committee Reports:

Finance:

- CD will mature in September

Property:

- Deiter Bros. oil contract has been renewed
- On a motion by Cindy, seconded by Neola, tell Fisher Commercial Roofing we are not interested in their services as we have no current roofing issues.

Christian Education/Sunday School:

- Vacation Bible school is Saturday, July 20, 2024, from 9-3. Sign-up is extended to July 14.

Youth Ministry:

Worship and Music:

- Holy Baptism on July 14th (Weaver and Lazarus)
- Beth Stottmeister off on August 18th, Cindy Geho will supply
- Worship time returns to 10:30 AM on September 1st
- Joint Outdoor worship on September 8th at Breinigsville Park
- Rally Day and Harvest Home on September 15th

Staff Support:

- Staff reviews coming.

Evangelism:

- 150th cornerstone anniversary on October 27- Reformation Sunday

Stewardship:

- Community free dinner sponsorship is complete. Our next dinner is 7/19/24 sponsored by Jessica Wentz.
- Robert Neumoyer to be the next speaker for Temple Talk.

Ladies Aid:

- Vince's Cheesesteak Food Truck coming back to St. John's parking lot on August 15th. Pies and baked goods are also for sale. Hours: 11:30-6:00
- Pines Dinner Theater- October 11th (Patsy Cline) and December 6th (White Christmas)
- Basket Social scheduled for October 4th-5th. We have letters printed if anyone wants to help solicit local businesses for donations.

Constitution & Bylaws report:

Old Business:

- New copier has arrived early. The lease will be switched over to the new machine.
- No change to the Dieter Brothers' plan this year. We will review it again next year.

New Business:

- Linda Gery (Administrative Assistant) has requested vacation days for August 2nd, 5th, and 21st.
- Budget Committee needs to start looking for volunteers to meet in August/September.

Next Council Meeting-August 12th at 7:00 PM

A motion was made by Carla, seconded by Neola, 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. *You may also bring your garden goodies on Sundays! Please drop them outside the office door and Linda will place them with the other donations on Monday morning.*

Worship Time Change – service returns to 10:30 AM on Sept. 1st

Choir Rehearsals will resume each Thursday at 7 PM beginning Sept. 5th. Please speak with Beth Stottmeister (Director of Music) if you are interested in joining the choir.

Outdoor Worship Service/Church Picnic – On Sunday, September 8th, we will have an outdoor worship service at the Breinigsville Park at 10:30 AM, followed by our annual picnic. This event will again be held together with the congregation of St. John's UCC. Bring your lawn chairs and a salad/dessert to share, if you are able (please sign-up in the narthex). Come and enjoy worshipping outside in God's creation, followed by good food, fellowship and fun. *In case of bad weather, please meet indoors at St. John's Lutheran Church Fellowship Hall.*

Rally Day is scheduled for Sunday, September 15th. Meet us at 9:00 AM in the Fellowship Hall - Parents, please



register your children for the new Sunday School year (registration forms can be found in the narthex). We will have classes for toddlers through adult and hope to see you there!

Harvest Home Sunday will be on Sunday, September 15th. If you are interested in contributing to the display, please have your canned goods and produce to the church by 9:00 AM on Saturday,

September 14th. All proceeds and other donations will be given to the local food bank. See Carol Moyer with any questions.

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 September 20, 2024 – sponsored by Ladies Aid. 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.*

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. Items DO NOT need to be in a basket/wrapped – we will be happy to assemble them for you! **Basket Assembly:** Tuesday, September 24th (4 PM- ?). 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 everyone who provided baked goods and all who helped bake pies for the Vince's food truck date here at St. John's...and to all who supported this fundraiser. We raised \$1,825.25!!
- ☞ To those who helped with the basket assembly in August. More dates are planned-join us.
- ☞ To those who provided special music this summer. Special thanks to Beth Stottmeister for leading them and inviting the talents of guest musicians as well.
- ☞ 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.



Youth Palate

- ✚ 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.
- ✚ **Rally Day is planned for September 15th!** Join us at 9:00 AM to kick off another year of Sunday School.
- ✚ The **Catechetical Program for 2024-2025** will be explained in a letter to the families of students in 7th & 8th grade – check your email for details. Contact the office with any questions.

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