

ST. JOHN'S HEARTBEAT

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
40 S. SECOND STREET, SLATINGTON, PA 18080
610-767-6361 (CHURCH) / 610-760-1379 (PARSONAGE)
E-MAIL ADDRESS: stjohnslatington@gmail.com
Website: www.stjohnslatington.org

SEPTEMBER, 2019

REV. RUSSELL F. HAAB, PASTOR
SHARON A. STEHLY, PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER

VOLUME 2019

MAILED 8/29/19

ISSUE 09

INSIDE:	
Anniversaries	Pg. 12
Basket Social	Pg. 8
Births	Pg. 11
Birthdays	Pgs. 15&17
Blessing of Backpacks	Pg. 2
Building Hours	Pg. 12
Calendar	Pgs. 9&21
Catechism Class	Pg. 5
Choir (Come Join)!	Pg. 4
Church Equipment	Pg. 8
Coffee Hours	Pg. 7
Community Luncheon	Pg. 3
Electronic Giving	Pg. 9
E-mail Address	Pg. 2
Financial Info.	Pg. 16
God's Work/Our Hands	Pg. 3
Harvest Home	Pg. 7
Help Needed	Pgs. 2-9&15
Hospitalizations	Pg. 10
Ice Cream Tour	Pg. 5
Ingathering Meeting	Pg. 5
Jubilees Schedule	Pg. 4
Memorial Gifts	Pg. 11
New Member	Pg. 11
Participants Schedule	Pg. 20
Pastoral Acts	Pg. 11
Prayer Shawls	Pg. 4
Rally Day	Pgs. 3&17
Recylcing	Pg. 7
Retirement Luncheon	Pg. 5
School Supplies	Pg. 6
Second Chance Meeting	Pg. 5
Sewing Group	Pg. 2
Sidewalk Drawings	Pg. 7
Soup & Sandwich Sale	Pg. 6
Sponsors Needed	Pg. 5
Sunday School Pulse	Pg. 17
Synod Assemby	Pg. 10
Synod News	Pgs. 18&19
Thank you Notes	Pgs. 13-15
Upcoming Events	Pg. 7
Worship Schedule	Pg. 2
Youth Fellowship	Pg. 3
Youth Gathering Comm.	Pg. 15

Dear Friends in Christ,

In late June I announced that I would be retiring at the end of the Summer. My last Sunday to lead you in worship will be September 1. I am truly thankful to God for the chance to have been your pastor for these last 19 years. We have celebrated happy times and sad times together; both our joys and sorrows in our lives of faith.

With the Congregation Council's acceptance of my retirement and the completion of my final duties in this congregation, my pastoral relationship with the members of Saint John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Slatington, Pennsylvania officially comes to an end on October 1, 2019. I will be using the month of September as vacation time for Brittany's wedding and to affect our move to Cherry Hill, New Jersey. I treasure the privilege you have given me to serve as your pastor for 19 years, but now pastoral responsibilities performed at your request and on your behalf will belong to your interim/designated pastor and then to your next regularly called pastor.

While friendships established during my pastorate can and will continue, it will be no longer appropriate for me to perform any pastoral functions (baptisms, weddings, funerals, etc.) for the members of Saint John's. If you ask

me to perform or assist at a pastoral function, I will have to say "No." And my negative answer comes from my respect for the integrity of the congregation, for the ministry of the pastors who will be serving you, for the professional ethics of the vocation I love, and for the policies of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). Only in extraordinary circumstances and with the prior approval of the synodical bishop and the Congregation Council would I consider accepting such an invitation.

My sincere request to you—as former parishioners and future friends—is to honor my determination to maintain healthy boundaries and to keep a respectful pastoral distance from the congregation. Please, therefore, do not ask me or request your pastor to invite me to functions as a pastor on your behalf. I would, however, consider it an honor to be invited to weddings, baptisms, funerals, and other functions as a friend and look forward to celebrating those rites of passage with you as my schedule allows. When in doubt about any request, please check with your regularly called pastor, or the Office of the Bishop.

For the last time, See you in Church,

Pastor Russell Haab+



In order to help you prepare for worship, we print the lectionary texts for each week. If you are helping a young child prepare for worship, look up the texts and read them together. Below is the schedule for the month of September:

September 1

12th Sunday After Pentecost
9:00 A.M. – Communion Service
Pastor Haab's last service.

Lessons:

Proverbs 25:6-7 Hebrews 13:1-8, 15-16
Psalm 112 Luke 14:1, 7-14

September 8

13th Sunday After Pentecost – Rally Sunday
“God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday
8:00 & 10:15 A.M. – Service of Word & Prayer

9:00 A.M. – Sunday School – Rally Day
11:30 A.M.–1:00 P.M. – Community Lunch

Lessons:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20 Philemon 1-21
Psalm 1 Luke 14:25-33

September 15

14th Sunday After Pentecost
8:00 & 10:15 A.M. – Communion Service
9:00 A.M. – Sunday School

Lessons:

Exodus 32:7-14 1 Timothy 1:12-17
Psalm 51:1-10 Luke 15:1-10

September 22

15th Sunday After Pentecost
8:00 & 10:15 A.M. – Service of Word & Prayer
9:00 A.M. – Sunday School
11:30 A.M. – Pastor Haab’s Retirement Luncheon

Lessons:

Amos 8:4-7 1 Timothy 2:1-7
Psalm 113 Luke 16:1-13

September 29

16th Sunday After Pentecost – Harvest Home
St. Michael and All Angels Sunday
8:00 & 10:15 A.M. – Holy Communion
9:00 A.M. – Sunday School–Sidewalk Chalk
Lessons: Contest
Daniel 10:10-14, 12:1-3 Revelation 12:7-12
Psalm 103:1-5, 20-22 Luke 10:17-20

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS



All students and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks, school bags, book bags, and laptops to church on Sunday, September 1, for a service of blessing as we start the new school year.

SEWING GROUP



The Sewing Group will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Fridays, September 6 and 13, from 9:30 to 11:30 A.M.

The sewing group is in need of people to sew the quilts together. There is a sewing machine here at the church for anyone who can help. If you prefer, you can take the squares with you to sew at your home. If you can help with sewing quilts, please come on Fridays or contact Betsy Rauch at 610-767-8370.

CHECK YOUR E-MAIL



Make sure to check your e-mail every Friday for the weekly e-update from St. John’s. If you don’t receive our weekly e-update, give us your e-mail address and we’ll add you to the list. Send information to stjohnslatington@gmail.com. Also check St. John’s out on Facebook and at our web page at: www.stjohnslatington.org.

RALLY DAY



Join us for Rally Day on Sunday, September 8, at 9:00 A.M. This year we will be painting rocks which will then be placed over the time capsule we buried in spring. Any remaining rocks will be placed in the flower beds around the church grounds. Make sure you wear old/play clothes. Watch your mail for more details.

GOD'S WORK, OUR HANDS SUNDAY



September 8, 2019 is "God's Work, Our Hands" Sunday, an opportunity to celebrate the 31st anniversary of the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA).

We are a church that rolls up our sleeves and gets to work. Whether it's cleaning up a neighborhood park, delivering meals, or helping a child learn to read, let's join together for a dedicated day of service on September 8 as four million members and 10,000 congregations.

You work every day to welcome your neighbors and make your community a better place. For over 30 years we have been a church that does God's work in the world – restoring and reconciling communities. Guided by the Holy Spirit, we are a church that is resilient and ***always being made new.***

It will be Rally Sunday at St. John's, and will be celebrated throughout the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America as *God's Work, Our Hands Sunday*. It is meant to be a day of service within the community. By this we would not just go to church, but we can BE the church!

There will be a FREE Community Luncheon that day (more information in the next column). All are welcome to attend.

COMMUNITY LUNCHEONS ARE BACK!



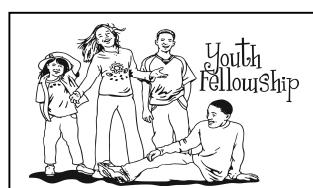
You are invited to attend the first of our five free community luncheons on Sunday, September 8, 2019. Our menu for this meal will be baked chicken, oven-brown potatoes, vegetables, tossed salad, beverages, and desserts.

If you have attended before, you know you'll be eating delicious food and enjoying great fellowship. If you've not attended one of our luncheons, now might be the time to try one. Really you don't want to miss it! Hope to see you there.

Future dates to put on your calendar for community luncheons are: **November 3, 2019** (spaghetti, meatballs, sausage, tossed salad, beverages, & desserts); **January 5, 2020** (meatloaf, mashed potatoes, vegetables, tossed salad, beverages, & desserts); **March 1, 2020** (chicken parmesan, chicken Marsala, pasta, sauce, tossed salad, beverages, & desserts); and **May 3, 2020** (barbeques, filling, vegetables, tossed salad, beverages, & desserts).

If you are interested in helping at one or all of the community luncheons or would like to bring a dessert to one, please speak to Brian or Debbie Geiger. The food is free, and the company is great!

YOUTH FELLOWSHIP START-UP



All youth from grades 7-12 are invited to be a part of St. John's Youth Fellowship group. We will be planning many fun and service-based activities throughout the year.

Our first event will be to help with the community lunch on Sunday, September 8. We will meet in October to plan other events.

JOIN THE CHOIR

A choir plays a huge part in the spirit of a church and it has often been said that music feeds the soul. For me, this is an absolute truth. I don't know anyone that isn't touched by music at one point or another in his/her life.

As St. John's goes through some very real and changing times with the retiring of Pastor Haab and moves through the healing process from the wound of the loss of long-time beloved organist Joanne Perich, there will be growing pains and challenges to meet.

With Rally Day around the corner, school in session again, and soon a change of calendar seasons, it is time to embark on our next season of choir. This is where I'm making an appeal to you to share your talents. Choir can play an important role in a faith journey. Lyrics touch souls and sometimes mend them. There's a shared spirit in joining voices in song.

If you've sung with the choir for years or never had but have been a "closet shower singer" only, won't you please consider joining the church or chime choirs? Do you play another instrument? I'd like to compile a list of students and adults that sing and play instruments so that we might be able to incorporate these talents into services throughout the year.

It is my hope to have rehearsals weekly on a still to be determined weeknight and time. Most of you know I'm facing some of my own health challenges right now and that's preventing me from nailing down that night and time. But what we can do, and what I'd like to do, is begin to plan. I hear the congregation singing the hymns every week. You are a great singing congregation and it is my hope to foster and grow the music program here at St. John's Lutheran. With your help, we can do that.

So for now, please let me know you're willing to give it a shot! Let me know if you'd be interested

in singing or ringing chimes or playing an instrument or offering a solo. There is room for EVERYONE. Watch future bulletins and newsletters for a better defined schedule and eventually a music questionnaire for everyone to help us move the music program forward. But until then, why not join us in the choir room on Sunday mornings (beginning September 8) after the early service where we'll rehearse before the late service and raise our voices together to praise God and thank God for his gifts. What grace we have been given, let's thank Him in song.

Fawn can be reached via email at fdalbert@ptd.net, home phone at 610-799-6116, or cell at 610-533-8859. I hope to have an abundance of responses. Many blessings to all and sincere thanks for welcoming me into your fold and for your prayers and cards as I face my cancer journey. Your love and support has made it easy to want to be a part of you.

JUBILEES SCHEDULE



Seniors' Gathering

The Jubilees will next meet on Monday, September 9. They will meet in the church parking lot at 11:30 A.M. to carpool to lunch at the Highway Restaurant on Route 145 in Laurys Station. They will have their monthly meeting at lunch. If you plan to go to lunch, please call Isabel Ringer at 610-767-4534 by Sunday, September 1. New members are always welcome.

The Jubilees will sponsor the first coffee hour on Sunday, October 6.

PRAYER SHAWLS



The crochet group that meets here at St. John's every Tuesday evening has made some prayer shawls. They are on the front pew on the pulpit side if you know anyone who would appreciate having one.

SPONSORS NEEDED



There are some open dates this fall to sponsor bulletins and/or flowers. The cost to sponsor flowers is \$35.00. The cost for sponsoring bulletins is \$20.00. Payment can be mailed to the church office or placed in your offering envelope on a Sunday indicating the payment is for bulletins and/or flowers. Open dates for the rest of this year are:

- Flowers: September 8 & 15, November 3, and December 8 & 29.
- Bulletins: September 8 & 29, November 10, and December 1, 8, 15, & 29.

To sponsor bulletins or flowers for any open date, sign your name on the appropriate chart posted on the bulletin board outside the church office or call the office at 610-767-6361.

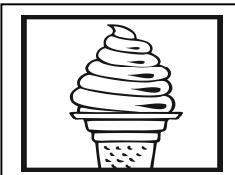
SECOND CHANCE SHOPPE

Volunteers are needed to help at the shoppe. If you can give three hours of your time, please contact Fianna Christman at 610-751-6842.

Thank you to everyone who has made donations to the shoppe.

The next board meetings will be held on Tuesdays, September 10 and October 8 at the church.

ICE CREAM TOUR



The Eastern Ice Cream Tour sponsored by the Northeastern PA Synod for all members of the Lehigh, Bethlehem-Easton, and Northern Lehigh

Mission Districts will be held at Crystal Springs Farm, 3550 Bellview Road, Schnecksville on Sunday, September 15, from 7:00 to 9:00 P.M. Bishop Zeiser and Vice President, Kristen Edelman-Weiner will be in attendance. Everyone is invited to attend! For more information visit the synod website (www.nepasynod.org).

INGATHERING MEETING



An Ingathering planning meeting will be held on Tuesday, September 17, at 7:00 P.M. at Union Lutheran Church in

Schnecksville. Anyone interested in attending can contact Betsy Rauch at 610-767-8370.

CATECHISM CLASS ENROLLMENT



All youth who are entering 7th grade or above in school this fall are invited to enroll in catechism class. An introductory meeting for the youth and at least one parent/guardian will be held on Wednesday, September 18, at 6:00 P.M. in the Fellowship Hall.

Watch your mail and/or bulletins for more information on dates and times that catechism classes will be held.

RETIREMENT LUNCHEON



As everyone knows, Pastor Haab is retiring from St. John's Lutheran Church. His last Sunday preaching is Sunday, September 1. He will be using his vacation time during the month of September.

We will have a Retirement Luncheon for Pastor Haab and Lynn on Sunday, September 22, after the 10:15 A.M. service in the Fellowship Hall. Tickets are \$3.00 each and can be purchased from Brian Geiger or Sharon Stehly on Sunday mornings after the service or from Sharon during normal business hours during the week. Call the church office at 610-767-6361 before coming in for tickets since Sharon has physical therapy several days a week.

SCHOOL SUPPLIES NEEDED



The Northern Lehigh Food Bank is collecting school supplies for children in need.

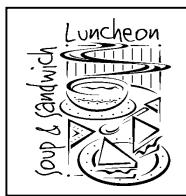
Some of the supplies

students will need are: loose-leaf paper, 1" 3-ring binders, pens (black, blue, & red), pencils, highlighters, crayons, colored pencils, pencil case (cloth or plastic), large & extra-large book covers, and erasers. Donations may be brought to church and placed in the baskets for the food bank in the narthex throughout the Fall.

MISSION SUPPORT OFFERING

Part of your weekly offering can be designated for Mission Support by indicating that on the "For:" line on your envelope. The church mails Mission Support/World Hunger/special appeal donations into the synod office on a quarterly basis.

SOUP AND SANDWICH SALE



The Catering Committee of St. John's Lutheran Church, Slatington is sponsoring a soup and sandwich sale on Saturday, September 28. Pick-up times will be between 9:00 and 11:00

A.M. in the Fellowship Hall. The menu is: (Take Out Only)

o *Monte Cristo Wrap* – Start with a 12-inch wrap. Add French dressing, sliced American cheese, sliced boiled ham, sliced roasted turkey breast, shredded lettuce, sliced tomatoes, then rolled together. Price – \$5.50 each.

Price – \$5.50 each.

o *Roast Beef French Dip Sandwich* – Sliced

tender roast beef and sliced provolone cheese

stacked on a hearty steak roll with Au jus and

horseradish sauce on the side.

Price – \$5.50 each.

o *Amish Chicken Corn Chowder* – A blend of diced celery, diced onions, shredded carrots, and cut sweet corn sautéed in butter. Thicken with flour and blend with hearty chicken broth

and diced tender chunks of chicken, then seasoned with black pepper and parsley flakes. Add whole milk and extra wide egg noodles for a delicious chicken corn chowder.

Price – \$6.00 per quart.

o *Crab Bisque* – Sautee diced celery, diced onions, and crab meat in butter. Thicken with flour. Add whole milk and cream. Blend in good seafood stock, black pepper, salt, paprika, parsley, sherry, and tomato sauce,

Price -- \$7.00 per quart.

o *Hearty Chili* – Sautee ground beef along with diced onions, and diced green bell peppers. Add diced tomatoes, dark red kidney beans, tomato sauce, garlic, chili powder, and pepper.

Price -- \$4.00 per pint.

To order sandwiches or soup, please fill out the order slip below and either mail or drop off to the church by Sunday, September 22. You can call your order into the church office at 610-767-6361. You can also call your soup and sandwich order into Harrison Williams at 610-216-4284 or e-mail Harrison at williamshj2514@msn.com.

Soup and Sandwich Sale Order Blank

Name: _____

Phone #: _____

Monte Cristo Wrap

_____ @ \$5.50 each = _____

Roast Beef French Dip Sandwich

_____ @ \$5.50 each = _____

Amish Chicken Corn Chowder

_____ @ \$6.00 quart = _____

Crab Bisque _____ @ \$7.00 quart = _____

Hearty Chili _____ @ \$4.00 pint = _____

Total Due \$ _____

HARVEST HOME SCHEDULED

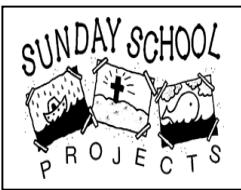


Our annual Harvest Home celebration is scheduled for Sunday, September 29, at both services.

St. John's will have an opportunity to provide needed items for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. Financial contributions are also welcome. Specific items needed will be listed in the September bulletins. Members will be asked to place their gifts in special baskets in the narthex when they arrive at church. These gifts will be presented (by the ushers) when the regular weekly offering is presented.

Members of the Worship and Music Committee will provide a special harvest display. Join us for this special celebration!

YOUR VOTE COUNTS



On Sunday, September 29, the Sunday School children will again be participating in a Sidewalk Chalk Drawing Contest. Teams of students will draw pictures of different Bible stories on the sidewalks in front of the church.

We are asking congregation members to come to church a little early on Sunday, September 29, and vote for your favorites in a variety of categories. Winners will be announced and prizes awarded. In case of rain, drawings will be done on poster board and displayed for voting in the Fellowship Hall.

USED INK CARTRIDGES



Heather Miller is collecting used ink cartridges, cell phones, MP3 players, and laptops to earn money for the church's Youth Gathering Fund. Boxes can be found in the Fellowship Hall and narthex for your convenience to leave your donations. Thank you for your continued donations to these worthy causes!

COFFEE HOURS TO RESUME



The first coffee hour will be held on Sunday, October 6, between the services at 9:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall, sponsored by the Jubilees. Stop in for some fellowship and food and to see anyone you missed over the summer.

Coffee hours will be held the first Sunday of the month between the two services. Hosts and hostesses are needed each month. Please sign the coffee hour sign-up sheet at the rear of the church if you are willing to help provide baked goods for one of the coffee hours. The coffee and paper products are provided by the Catering Committee.

UPCOMING EVENTS



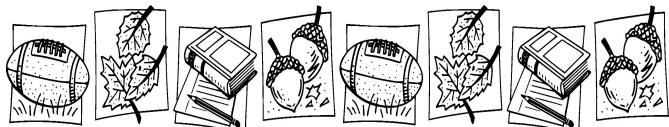
Keep an eye out and mark your calendars for some future St. John's events listed below:

- Sunday, October 13 – W.I.S.H. Basket Social
- Sunday, October 27 – Reformation Sunday
- Sunday, November 3 – All Saints Sunday and Community Lunch

ALUMINUM TABS



Aluminum tabs that are collected here at St. John's Lutheran Church benefit the Shriners Hospital for Children which provides free medical care. No child is turned away because of the inability to pay at a Shriners Hospital. If you know of a child that needs medical care, contact any Shriner for more information. Thank you and continue to bring the tabs to St. John's for pick up. Clarence Smith collects the tabs for the Shriners Hospital.



THE ANNUAL W.I.S.H. BASKET SOCIAL



The W.I.S.H. (*Women Involved with Sharing & Helping*) Circle will sponsor its annual Gift Basket Social on Sunday, October 13, in the Fellowship Hall here at St. John's. Doors will open at 12:00 Noon; the drawing will begin at 1:00 P.M. There will be light refreshments and seating available.

We are looking for gift basket donations for the basket social. The basket social is W.I.S.H.'s only fund raiser for the year. Profits from the basket social are donated to ongoing projects/events at the church (general fund, community luncheons, Breakfast Bunch, graduation dinner, and Youth Gathering), the global church (Lutheran World Relief), and to help local families in need.

You may contribute as follows:

- A gift basket (value \$15.00 or more).
- Empty baskets or basket filler.
- Items for a basket (we will put into a basket).
- Door prizes.
- Financial donation (any amount) to purchase items for a basket.

All types of items/baskets are welcome. Here is a list of some basket themes from prior socials:

Baby	Halloween
Baking	Holiday Items
Bath	Italian
Beanies	Lottery Ticket
Bird Feed	Money Tree
Car Wash	Movie
Casino	Nascar
Christmas	Northern Lehigh
Cleaning	Paperback Books
Coffee/Tea	Pet Items
Crafts	Restaurants
First Aid	School Supplies
Gardening	Snack Items
Gourmet	Sport Teams
Hair Items	Wine & Cheese
Any Children-related Items/Books	

Basket donations can be dropped off in the Sunday School office or church office on Sundays, given to any member of W.I.S.H., or dropped off in the church office during normal business hours (Monday-Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.).

Donations are needed no later than Monday, October 7. The W.I.S.H. members will organize the baskets on Monday, October 7, beginning at 6:00 P.M. in the education wing here at church.

Basket Social tickets are now on sale. Tickets are \$5.00 and can be purchased from any member of W.I.S.H. or in the church office during normal business hours. There will also be a sign-up sheet on the church office door for anyone who would like to donate finger foods for refreshments for the basket social.

Help is also needed on the day of the basket social (October 13) in the following ways:

- Basket transport personnel – to help carry the baskets from the upstairs Sunday School rooms to the Fellowship Hall for the drawings.
- Refreshment help – keeping the trays stocked with snack goodies during the basket social.
- Ticket watchers – to watch peoples' tickets who could not stay for the drawing to see if they won any baskets.
- Set-up help before and clean-up help after the basket social.

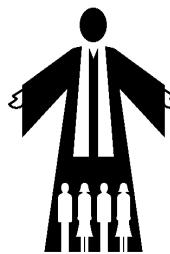
If you can help with any of the above needs, please sign your name on the sign-up sheet on the church office door or call the church office at 610-767-6361. Thank you for your continued support of our basket social!

CHURCH EQUIPMENT SIGN-OUTS



Anyone wanting to borrow church equipment (tables, chairs, coffee pots, etc.) for any outside events must call the church office at 610-767-6361 to reserve the equipment ahead of the date the equipment is needed. When picking up the equipment, you must sign out the borrowed equipment on the sign-out sheet maintained in the church office. When returning the equipment, please sign your name with the date the equipment was returned.

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS NEEDED



We are in need of people to help with various duties during our worship services. The duty and the number of volunteers would determine how often you would be scheduled during the year.

We are especially in need of Assisting Ministers, Communion Assistants, Greeters (8:00 A.M.), and Sound System help.

Please consider signing up for at least one duty or an additional duty to what you are presently doing. If you are willing to volunteer for any of these duties, please complete the sheet below and place it in the offering plate or return it to the church office by Sunday, December 15.

New participants would not be scheduled until February, 2020. If you have any questions on any of the positions, please contact the church office at 610-767-6361.

Worship Service Participants

Name: _____

Phone No.: _____

Indicate Service Preferred
8:00 10:15 Either

Assisting Minister _____

Communion Assistant _____

Greeter _____

Usher _____

Altar Guild _____

Presenter _____

Sound System Ministry _____

MASTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS



A master calendar of all events held on the church premises is retained in the church office to avoid double booking the available rooms in the church and ensure the building is unlocked. Please make sure all meetings or events that your committee/group/organization holds in the church are reserved with the office. Contact Sharon in the church office at 610-767-6361 (Monday through Friday from 8:30 A.M. to 3:00 P.M.) to reserve space in the church for your event.

You must complete a Facilities Use Request form, which is available from the tract rack outside the office. Complete the form and give it to Sharon in the church office.

Do **NOT** mark the event on the calendar posted on the bulletin board across from the church office; Sharon will mark dates on that calendar so people can see what is happening.

The cost to rent the Fellowship Hall is \$40; \$50 if using the kitchen. Rental fees must be paid prior to the event.

ELECTRONIC GIVING

St. John's has moved into the electronic age for giving! Enjoy the convenience of electronic giving which allows you to make donations on a scheduled automatic basis. If you are writing checks and preparing envelopes every week, you will enjoy electronic giving. It is convenient for you and provides much needed donation consistency for St. John's.



To get started, simply scan the QR code with your smart phone. It will take you to our mobile online giving page. Create a profile and log in to set up automatic donations from a checking/savings account or credit/debit account.

2019 SYNOD ASSEMBLY

ANNUAL CONFERENCE

Pastor Haab and I (Sharon Stehly), attended the Mission District Assembly on Thursday, May 16, at Grace Lutheran Church in Belfast. Stephen Stehly, along with Pastor Haab and Sharon attended the 32nd Annual Northeast PA Synod Assembly on Saturday, June 1 at Genetti's in Hazleton. Everyone should attend at least one Synod Assembly in their lifetime. It is an exciting gathering of pastors, deacons, and lay people.

The day began with Festival worship led by Bishop Zeiser. An offering of \$3,600 was collected for World Hunger. Our theme was "Freed in Christ for a New Day" which reminds us it is a new day and that who got us here will come again.

The ELCA churchwide representative, Rev. Ronald Glusenkamp spoke on the ELCA Churchwide ministry. An offering of \$3,300 for the Campaign for the ELCA was collected.

Bishop Zeiser reviewed some of the ministry and mission for the NE PA Synod and the challenges that the next bishop to be elected in 2020 will face. Congregations are also facing challenging situations.

After lunch, there were several elections and reports from other synod officers. The assembly adopted two resolutions. One to bring the synod council up to date with current practice. The other was a resolution that the Youth, Young Adult, and Family Ministry Team work with the Transition Team to address the need for synodical youth leadership and many volunteer opportunities. The 2020 assembly will elect a Bishop from June 4-6 at the Kalahari Resort in the Poconos.

Thank you for giving me the opportunity to represent our church at the synod assembly. It is always a wonderful and inspiring experience.

Sharon Stehly

MOVING?



If you are moving, or have just moved, please notify the church office of your new address and phone number

so that our records are accurate. We do receive address corrections from the post office *at a fee*. Help us keep mailing costs down by giving us address changes before you move.

Orange slips are also available in the back of the church to update your address/phone information. Please keep us updated on contact numbers as more people are going to cell phones only. If you have any changes, please complete an orange slip and put it in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office.

HOSPITALIZATIONS



Please call the church office (610-767-6361) whenever a family member, neighbor, or friend who is a member of St. John's is hospitalized or moves from one hospital to another or to a rehab facility. Due to stricter privacy laws, hospitals do *not* notify the church when a member is admitted to the hospital. Please give the hospitals our church code of "290" when being admitted. Keep us informed of any hospitalizations so a pastor can visit and keep people in our prayers.

Please tell us if you do not want your name published. The prayer list on the back of your bulletins each week will be emptied at the beginning of each month. We will maintain people recently in the hospital on the list but remove all others at the start of each month. Please call the church office (610-767-6361) if you would like yourself or a loved one to remain on the prayer list.

PASTORAL ACTS



Jessica Lynn Sisk & Jeffrey Michael Pugh
6-8-2019

Baptisms

Jessica Lynn Sisk
Daughter of David Kent Heintzelman
& Kim Marie (nee Eichelberger) Heintzelman
6-7-2019



Dawn Eileen (nee Geiger) Herman
8-14-2019

Lorraine Carrie (nee Kocher) Oswald
8-14-2019

TRANSFER OUT

Leroy Albert Sheckler and Carole Jane (nee Gilbert) Sheckler to Union Lutheran Church, Schnecksburg PA

NEW MEMBER



We warmly welcomed Nancy Ann Abrams as our newest member of St. John's Lutheran Church on Sunday, July 28, 2019. Please welcome Nancy the next time you see her.



Just Born

Mackenzie Ann Beers
Spencer Charles Beers
Twin Daughter & Son of Daniel Allen Beers
& Csala (nee Peters) Beers
were born on June 10, 2019



Adam David Sigley & Michelle Demko
got engaged on August 23, 2019.
Congratulations!



Donation to the Air Conditioning Fund

In Memory of the following loved ones:
Bruce Geiger from Brian & Debbie Geiger
Joanne Perich from Sharon Karpiszin

Donation to the Current Fund

In Memory of the following loved ones:
Russell Hallman from Isabel Ringer
Dawn Herman from Burlene Balliet
Joanne Perich from Richard & Judy Muthard

Donation to the Memorial Fund

In Memory of *Father, Charles Leroy Hileman*
from Mary Ann Sellers
