



Dear Siblings in Christ,

The month of October is beautiful in southeastern Pennsylvania. While every year is different, in a 'good' year the colors of the leaves are vibrant and breathtaking. The transition of the season, marked in this manner, is God's way of announcing that change is imminent. We know with our whole being that a new season is upon us, and that we can experience the transformation to a new season with all our senses.

October is also the month of the year that many, if not all, Lutheran congregations hear the rallying cry of the Protestant Reformation – "We are justified by faith!" Although it has been more than 500 years since Martin Luther nailed the 95 theses to the doors of the Castle Church at Wittenberg, change is being demanded by God's call for reformation through the transformation and the renewal of our minds.

Notice how Luther's first of the 95 theses starts where God always starts. Luther writes, "When our Lord and Master Jesus Christ said, 'Repent', he willed the entire life of believers to be of one repentance." Luther was calling on the church to repent, and for the representatives of the church to reform, and to move away from all that kept them from the cross. We, too, are called to name our sin, repent and turn away from it. In doing so we experience the gift of God's grace.

Luther's daily Bible study, prayer, and engaging others in holy conversation led him to recognize scripture as the God-breathed authority for all things. Just think what we might learn if we too engaged in the discipline of daily Bible study, prayer, and holy conversation! How might the Spirit, the Breath of God, speak to us?

We may want to avoid, ignore, or even quit in situations when we know change is being called forth. God does not avoid, ignore, or quit us. Avoiding, ignoring, and quitting are not options for us, either. Those are all actions that take us away from the cross and indeed require our repentance and reform.

When change is motivated by the cross, when we acknowledge that Jesus died so that we might live in His image, when our services of worship are expressions of our inability to withhold our praise, we will know, with confidence, that we are the living sacrifices that Paul talks about in Romans 12:1-2 revealing the renewal of our minds that can discern the will of God – what is good and acceptable and perfect.

For members and friends of St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church this year will highlight a class, taught by Jennifer Schlegel, titled "A NEW REFORMATION – From Luther's World to Ours". Class will begin at 10:45 each Sunday morning in October. The material, based on events that occurred more than 500 years ago, remains applicable to the Church, and to our congregation here at St. John's. You'll hear echoes of the ages and reinforcement of more recent reforms that we are experiencing together. Our new season of reformation and transformation at St. John's is underway!



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FALLEN COMRADE CEREMONY

The Fallen Comrade Ceremony honors living warriors and their resulting soul injuries/emotional distress from military service and/or combat experiences.

Veterans, members currently serving, first responders, their families, and the community are welcome.

Family members affected by their loved one's service are also provided a safe place to remember. Civilians are offered a meaningful way to show support.

- Masks are required for this event.
- Live Stream available for those not able to attend.

RSVP by
Friday, October 22, 2021
610-367-1608
blong1@bayada.com

**Beyond
"Thank you
for your
service".**

**SATURDAY,
OCTOBER 30, 2021
11:00AM - 1:00PM**

St John's
Evangelical
Lutheran Church
45 N Reading Ave.
Boyertown, PA 19512



BAYADA®
Hospice



**FALL
CLEAN UP**

**Saturday, October 2
8:30 am**

St. John's will provide donuts and coffee along with inside cleaning supplies. Please bring your own rakes and shovels for outdoor cleanup.

Thank you for your support in keeping our facility a beautiful place to serve and worship God!



Eagle Messenger Article Deadlines

Monday, October 11 *for November issue*

Monday, November 8 *for December issue*

Monday, December 6 *for January issue*

BEGINNING THE WEEK OF OCTOBER 3 FOR 5 WEEKS

SUNDAY@10:45 AM

A NEW REFORMATION: FROM LUTHER'S WORLD TO OURS

TUESDAY@6:30 PM

TOO BUSY NOT TO PRAY

THURSDAY@6:30 PM

**IRRESISTIBLE: RECLAIMING THE NEW THAT JESUS
UNLEASHED FOR THE WORLD**

FALL LEARNING
register online

PRESCHOOL NEWS

By: Amy Willson

We are off to an amazing start and look forward to sharing all the exciting things happening at the Preschool!

We are delighted to announce the addition of 6 new members to our Preschool Staff:

Jackie Nesbitt - 3 year old teacher
DeeDee Kelly - 3 year old assistant
Alishia Toub - 4 year old teacher
Hannah Scheiry - 4 year old assistant
Kelly Ochranek - 4 year old assistant
Alyx Morgan - Intern

Over the next few months we will spotlight a member of our Preschool staff so you have the opportunity to get to know each of us a little bit better!

At the end of August the staff had the unique opportunity to participate in an onsite training with Paula from Learning Without Tears. It was a fantastic day of learning and exploring the LWT Curriculum! We were thrilled to be able to purchase a number of items from the LWT curriculum including workbooks and a variety of hands-on manipulatives. We are so excited to incorporate what we learned during our training and utilize all of our awesome new materials in our classrooms.

Last year we held our first Fall Scavenger Hunt, and it was such a great event we decided to hold it again this year! This year's hunt will be held on Saturday, October 23 from 10:00 – 12:00.

The year is not without its challenges, but those challenges are outweighed by the wonderful children and families that we are blessed to have at St. John's Preschool. We continue to remain focused on all the positives, and remain passionate about sharing our love of learning with the children.



Introducing Mrs. Rachel Murphy:

Hi! My name is Rachel Murphy and this is my sixth school year teaching at St. John's Preschool. I teach the Transitional Kindergarten class in the morning and 4-year olds in the afternoon.



I live in Boyertown with my husband, Brian and two dogs. I love teaching preschool-aged children because their excitement for learning new concepts is amazing to see everyday. I always look forward to watching the children's creativity and developmental skills grow throughout the year. Getting little hugs throughout the day is definitely an added bonus to my job! When I'm not teaching you can usually find me at the beach, drinking an iced coffee from Dunkin' Donuts, and listening to the Backstreet Boys.

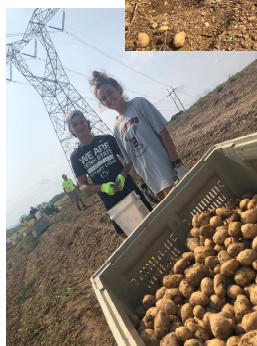
SUBS NEEDED

Preschool is currently in need of substitute teachers.

Contact Amy Willson if interested.
awillson@stjohnsboyertown.org
610-367-0197

POTATO PROJECT FUN!

7 tons harvested = over 8,000 people fed



THERE IS A STORY TO BE TOLD

By Charles Haddad

Bulletin Board Says "Protestant Service at 10 A.M." G.I.'s Worship in New Guinea Jungle

Perhaps the headline caught your eye. It surely caught mine as I read the April 1, 1945 issue of St. John's Speaks, the church newsletter sent to service men and women from St. John's serving in the armed forces. My reading of past issues of the St. John's Speaks was to gather photos and information on the men and women that served in WWII for the St. John's display at the Gen. Spaatz Museum. The article was written by Paul H. Gery, who in 1945 was from Hereford and sent the article to his home Sunday School in Huffs Church. I found it inspiring, sad and uplifting. I hope you will too.

* * *

"It is Sunday morning in the jungles of New Guinea. To some just another day, to others the Sabbath. It is very warm, a slight breeze drifting through the coconut trees, the endless tide rapidly going out to sea. The jungle is still - silent with its secrets no man will ever discover. It won't speak of the death it has witnessed and of the blood which has stained it. It holds in its bosom some mother's son - DEAD. It also holds our enemies dead. Yes, war is all around us.

The bulletin board reads: 'Protestant Service at 10 A.M.' Services are held out there under that coconut tree. Not much of a chapel, is it? No, but it is a beautiful chapel nevertheless. Its ceiling is God's own - the sky; the rays of the morning sun streaming across its vastness. There are no walls other than the dense jungle foliage. The altar is just an old wooden box. The pews are boxes, rocks or the limb of a fallen tree. Simple, yes, but here it means more than the finest cathedral in your gleaming, modern cities back home. Here men go to church because they want to go - need to go - not by force of habit as is often the case back home. I wish all could go with this spirit.

It is 5 minutes to 10 now. The congregation comes in one by one. Here comes Joe. He is decked out in his Sunday best. He wears just an old pair of trousers, no shirt, muddy shoes. Maybe his ears aren't even washed. He knows why he is coming. He wants to thank God, to speak to him. God may have spared him yesterday from an enemy bullet. A negro boy comes in; strange. No, not at all. God knows no difference in race here. In his eyes everyone is alike. White, black, yellow - it does not matter. Bill and his buddies come now. Some wear clean uniforms, others may not have any and come in battle dress. God isn't particular how they come dressed. Pretty clothes aren't needed here. They wouldn't be practical. These boys, after services are over, may have work to do; then the pretty clothes would be spoiled or stained with blood.

The Chaplain opens with a hymn. There is no organ and the song may be a bit out of tune. No one cares. The invocation is given, a prayer is said. The war goes on! Out there in the harbor, grim ships of war in their grey war paint, sail silently by on their way to meet the foe or carry supplies to our men. The beach glitters this morning as the sun shines upon it. Not long ago, while the enemy

was being driven back, it didn't glitter. It too was stained but the sea washed it clean.

The Chaplain starts his sermon. Another machine of death, a bomber, roars by overhead on its way to drop destruction from the sky. The Chaplain can't be heard above the roar of these mighty engines. He stops. Slowly the roar of the bomber fades away. The Chaplain continues. The boys listen - think. The lad over there is thinking of Sunday back home. He sees an altar bedecked with flowers. He sees his mother, his girl or his wife, his friends there praying for him and his safety. Is that a tear in his eye? No! It can't be. Men don't cry! Or do they? Tomorrow he will be out there in the jungle again. Maybe he won't come back this time. Whether he does or not, he is asking God today to forgive him his sins and for strength. Yes, this is true worship, not make believe. These men are speaking with God. Praying.

The service is nearly over. Another hymn is sung and the Lord's Prayer is said slowly. The benediction is pronounced; the service is over. Men file out of this magnificent church - better men than they were yesterday. No one will destroy this church. The coconut trees will be there for quite a few years, the sky will always be there, God will always be there! The war goes on. More gray ships sail by, another bomber roars overhead. Guns boom, men die. This is total war. Services next Sunday. Some won't be here!"

* * *

Comment: This reprint may bring a lump to your throat or a tear to your eye as it did for me when I first read it. St. John's had 350 men and women serve in WWII with 8 men killed in action and many more wounded. Remember them in your prayers. At the start of WWII in 1941 there were 137 Army Chaplains and 105 Navy Chaplains on active military duty. At the end of WWII, there were 8,896 Army and 2,934 Navy Chaplains on active military duty. Faith and religion are important to our men and women in the military.

GRAND OPENING
GENERAL CARL SPAATZ
NATIONAL US ARMY AIR FORCES MUSEUM
A WORLD WAR II EXPERIENCE
28 Warwick St, Boyertown PA 19512

RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY
Saturday, October 2nd at 10-12 AM
Live music & military vehicles from WWII days
Self-guided tours begin at 12 PM with reduced \$5 admission

Sunday, October 3rd,
General Admission Museum Hours: Thurs-Sun 10AM-4PM
Self-guided tours begin upon opening
Interactive Tours: 11AM and 1PM
Reservations Required

<https://www.spaatzmuseum.org>
facebook.com/GeneralSpaatzMuseum

OCTOBER WORSHIP MINISTRY

Date	Day	Time	Liturgical Day	Special Service	Lector	Prayer	Sound	Ushers	Video
10/3/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	19th Sunday after Pentecost		Dave Long	Ros Moatz	Brianna Rohrbach	Brian & Ros Moatz, Terry & Sandy Wade	Sarah Eidle
10/10/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	20th Sunday after Pentecost		Shelly Houser	Mel Roth	Myles Omlor	Phil Haddad, Gerry Krause, Andy & Susan Varzally	Jason Eidle
10/17/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	21st Sunday after Pentecost	Harvest Festival	Dave Babb	Andy & Susan Varzally	Ashley Gheer	Darin Moyer, Kevin Moyer, Ben Rohrbach, Bill Rohrbach	Aiden Martin
10/24/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	22nd Sunday after Pentecost		John Herbert	Jean Machamer	Chase Sennott	Barry & Becky Erb, Carol Sematis, Terry Wadsworth	Scott Scheiry
10/31/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	Reformation Day		Missy Endy	Ros Moatz	Brianna Rohrbach	Martha Bentley, Ron & Bunny Riffle, Ed Schaeffer	Nyla Omlor
11/7/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	All Saints Day		Karen Pollock	Friz Family	Myles Omlor	Mike Gilbert, Donnie & Mary Kay Heimbach, Barbaraoup	Abbe Grofe
11/14/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	25th Sunday after Pentecost		Ben Rohrbach	Molly Byrne	Ashley Gheer	Charles Haddad, Phil Haddad, Jay Herbert, Scott Scheiry	Sarah Eidle
11/21/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	Christ is King	Preschool Family Service No Sunday School	Linda Rohrbach	Bonnie Moatz	Chase Sennott	Carol Sematis, Terry Wadsworth	Jason Eidle
11/22/2021	Monday	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Community Service	St. Andrew UMC Bechtelsville	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA
11/24/2021	Wednesday	7:00 PM	Thanksgiving Eve		Missy Endy		Brianna Rohrbach	Brian & Ros Moatz	Aiden Martin
11/28/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	Advent 1		Mel Roth	Ros Moatz	Ashley Gheer	Brian & Ros Moatz	Scott Scheiry

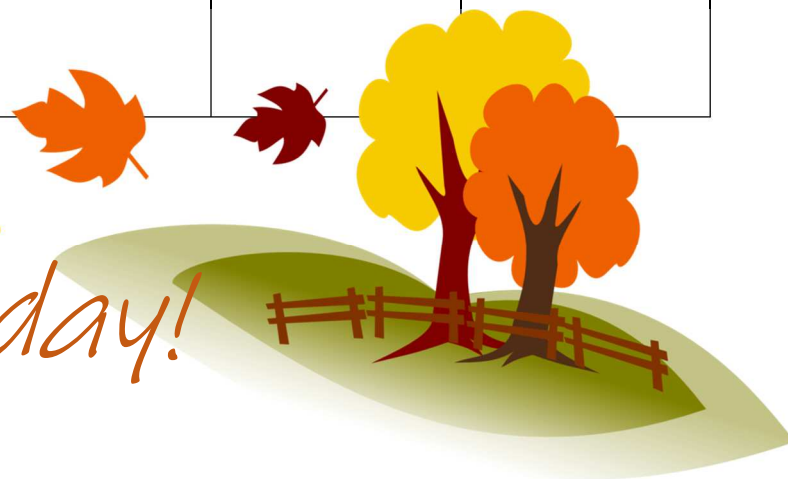
OCTOBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	2 8:30a Fall Clean Up 10:00a General Carl Spaatz Museum Grand Opening 4:30p Come to the Table
3 9:30a Sunday Church School 9:30a Worship Celebration 'Baptisms' 10:45a A New Reformation 12:45p Potato Project	4 11:00a Maefern Houck Celebration of Life 12:00p Houck Family Luncheon 6:30p Girl Scouts	5 6:30p Too Busy Not to Pray	6 2:00p Homelessness Task Force 6:30p Welcoming All	7 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:30p Irresistible 7:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Cub Scouts 512 8:00p Worship Broadcast	8 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	9 4:30p Come to the Table
10 9:30a Sunday Church School 9:30a Worship Celebration 10:45a A New Reformation	11 Columbus Day Preschool In-service 9:00a Preschool Staff Continuing Education 5:00p Newsletter Submission	12 6:30p Too Busy Not to Pray	13	14 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:30p Irresistible 7:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Cub Scouts 512 8:00p Worship Broadcast	15 Council Retreat 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	16 Council Retreat 4:30p Come to the Table 5:00p State Theatre
17 9:30a Sunday Church School 9:30a Worship Celebration 10:45a A New Reformation 11:00a State Theatre	18 6:30p Girl Scouts	19 6:30p Too Busy Not to Pray 7:00p Finance Team	20 9:30a Pottstown Soup Kitchen	21 9:00a Community Leaders 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 5:00p State Theatre 6:30p Irresistible 6:30p Troop Committee 7:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Cub Scouts 512 8:00p Worship Broadcast	22 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study 6:00p Bowman Wedding Rehearsal 6:30p Catechism GWBU	23 10:00a Preschool Fall Scavenger Hunt 3:30p Bowman Wedding 4:30p Come to the Table 7:00p Boyertown Halloween Parade
24 9:30a Sunday Church School 9:30a Worship Celebration 10:45a A New Reformation 2:00p Boyertown Halloween Parade (rain date)	25 6:30p Girl Scouts 7:00p Endowment Team	26 6:30p Too Busy Not to Pray	27 7:00p Congregation Council	28 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:30p Irresistible 7:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Cub Scouts 512 8:00p Worship Broadcast	29 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	30 11:00a Fallen Comrade Service 4:30p Come to the Table
31 Reformation Day 9:30a Sunday Church School 9:30a Worship Celebration 10:45a A New Reformation						

OCTOBER BIRTHDAYS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Hannah Scheiry	2 Leonard Crowdell
3 Stephanie Miller	4 Lauren Frey Dorothy Pollock Linda Yingling	5 Chad Roth Dolores Townsley	6 Ashley Heintz Nancy McElwee April Smith	7 Harry Crump Bunny Riffle	8 Dylan Derecola Michael Gilbert	9 Donald Losch
10 Christopher Manos	11 Wendy Gheer Emma Quinter	12 Carol Eidle Bruce Guinther Josephine Walt	13 Catherine Krause	14 Craig Stager	15 Noah Hertzog	16 Corey Shaner
17 David Eidle Abigail Grofe	18 Dirk Boughter Gregory Eidle Eleanor Sims	19	20 Jill Koch	21 Madeline Eidle Aloma Nagel Craig Pollock	22 Marlys Haws Christopher Pell	23
24 Philip Derr	25 Christine Miller Ethel Razmyslowski	26 William Swavely	27 Bill Smith	28 Joseph Stout	29	30
31						

Happy Birthday!



EAGLE MESSENGER

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH | 45 North Reading Avenue | Boyertown, PA 19512
610-369-1024 | 610-369-1463 Fax | www.stjohnsboyertown.org

Non-profit Organization
U.S. POSTAGE
PAID
Boyertown, PA
Permit No. 10020

We believe God's purpose for the people of
St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church is to develop
joy-filled children of God who love the Lord
and share God's Word.

We do this by:

- Maintaining a trusting and welcoming environment.
- Praying daily.
- Reading scripture regularly.
- Sharing our faith through action-based service.
- Encouraging holy conversations.
- Feeding our faith with music.

With a focus on:

- Activities that build relationships.
- Worship that is relevant.
- Meeting the needs of the vulnerable in our community.

Return Service Request - Dated Material
Mailed September 22, 2021

WORSHIP

SUNDAY 9:30 AM

IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM ON YOUTUBE

Office Hours (open by appointment)
Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm
Friday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Pastor Bob Machamer
Kay Christman, Finance Team
Sue Grofe, Finance Team
Bonnie Moatz, Finance Team
Michael Omlor, Treasurer
Shannon Omlor, Communications Coordinator
Becky Scheiry, Parish Administrator
Amber Shubert, Sexton
Amy Willson, Preschool Director

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Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.