



Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ,

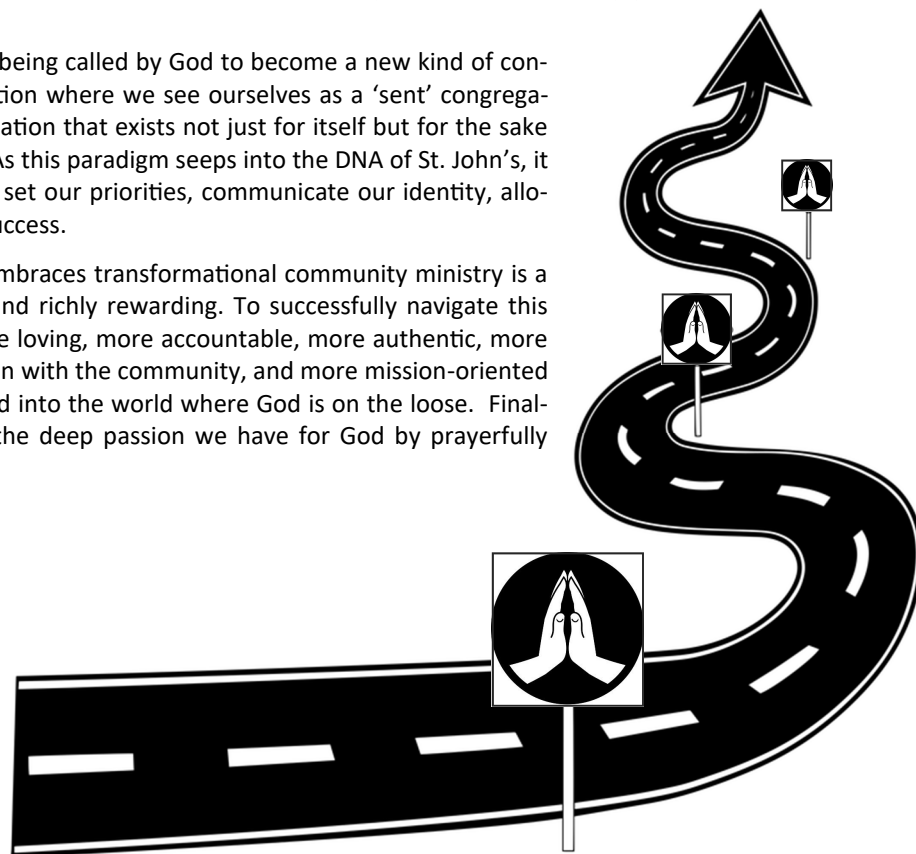
I came to you with a desire to join you in growing closer to God and joining God in whatever God called us to do. In a word – discipleship. Pretty simple. Simple, just not so easy. The simple part is that this adventure we are invited to join God in experiencing always starts with prayer. The spark of a vibrant congregation is the Holy Spirit. The conduit for the Holy Spirit's work in our ministry is persistent prayer. Without prayerful dependence on God's love and power, we will never have what it takes to produce a congregation that truly makes a difference. The not so easy part is getting beyond our self-dependence to God-dependence. Only the transforming grace of God can drive us beyond our stubborn resistance, prideful self-reliance, faithless fears, and self-centered comfort.

The good news is that it is God's design to supply every congregation with all that it needs for ministry (1 Corinthians 12:7). The test of readiness for transformational ministry is not what a congregation has, but how it is willing to use what it has. To that end, I believe many of our members at St. John's are embracing this vision of 'a new reformation' by becoming a Learning Community. I'm hearing talk of a congregation with numerous, learning-focused small groups available to its members and to the geographic community twelve months out of the year. I hear some of you talking about developing an exciting and dynamic small group ministry designed to get to know one another, but most importantly, deepen your relationships with God. That's what God has been up to at St. John's by offering eight small groups over the last five months. Participants have expressed overwhelming gratitude for those short term (five week) sessions.

There is no denying that we are being called by God to become a new kind of congregation. A missional congregation where we see ourselves as a 'sent' congregation (Matthew 28:19). A congregation that exists not just for itself but for the sake of a beloved and broken world. As this paradigm seeps into the DNA of St. John's, it will continue to change how we set our priorities, communicate our identity, allocate our resources, and define success.

Becoming a congregation that embraces transformational community ministry is a journey – hazardous, winding, and richly rewarding. To successfully navigate this journey, we will need to be more loving, more accountable, more authentic, more servant-hearted in our connection with the community, and more mission-oriented by getting out of our building and into the world where God is on the loose. Finally, we will need to hold on to the deep passion we have for God by prayerfully seeking God's will over our own.

Be blessed!
Pastor Bob



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ANNUAL CONGREGATION BUDGET MEETING

December 12
immediately following 9:30 am worship

In accordance with Article C.10.01.01 of our constitution, the Annual Congregation Budget Meeting will be held on Sunday, December 12, 2021, immediately following 9:30 am worship. The agenda consists of the following items:

- 1) presentation of the 2022 Ministry Action Plan for approval
- 2) election of Congregation Council Members

WEATHER RELATED CLOSINGS

Our 'Inclement Weather' policy at St John's states that when the Boyertown Area School District is closed, we follow their lead and cancel all meetings and events.

For weather related closings, check



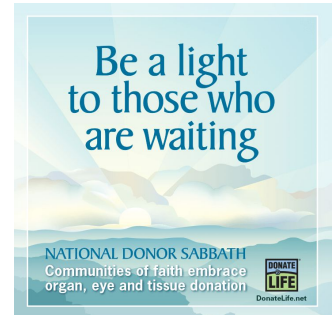
NOVEMBER WORSHIP

ALL SAINTS SUNDAY | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 7 | 9:30 AM

We will celebrate all of God's Saints, those living as well as those who have died in Christ. As is our custom, we will name aloud in our prayers that day all members who have died during the past year.

NATIONAL DONOR SABBATH | SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 14 | 9:30 AM

Be a light to those who are waiting. National Donor Sabbath is an inter-faith celebration of life and thanksgiving. It is a special time for congregations across America to learn about the critical shortage of organs and tissue and to celebrate the greatest blessing of all - LIFE. Learn more about organ, eye and tissue donation and register today at DonateLife.net.



THANKSGIVING EVE SERVICE | WEDNESDAY, NOVEMBER 24 | 7:00 PM

Eagle Messenger Article Deadlines

Monday, November 8 *for December issue*

Monday, December 6 *for January issue*

Monday, January 10 *for February issue*

SULLIVAN COUNTY

MEN'S RETREAT

JANUARY 28 - 30

12 PERSON LIMIT

REGISTER BY THANKSGIVING
ONLINE OR 610.369.1024

Contact Brian for more information at bmoatzsj@gmail.com.

PRESCHOOL NEWS

By: Amy Willson

There is something extra special about fall – the kaleidoscope of colors, the smell of fall, the brisk air combined with the warmth of the sun, snuggling up in cozy clothing, a cup of hot tea by a warm fire, the crunch of leaves under your feet. While I am most definitely a beach girl, fall is actually my favorite season. Fall is the start of what's to come, it's exploring a pumpkin patch, Trick or Treating, time with family and friends and enjoying all the season has to offer before the real hustle and bustle of the holidays kick in. It is a season of gratitude and thanks. Thanksgiving is extra special in our house because it also marks our wedding anniversary. This year we will be celebrating our 24th wedding anniversary. We were married Thanksgiving weekend, and we were lucky enough to have our family and friends with us not just for our wedding day but for the extended holiday weekend. We still host our family each year on Thanksgiving and also celebrate our anniversary. For many years, as part of our celebration we had our wedding cake, at least the same baker and the same cake flavors. Thanksgiving for me is a time of reflection, and taking stock of all of the blessings in my life.

At the preschool, fall provides the perfect backdrop for teaching as we learn about the changing seasons, study the life cycles of pumpkins, create art with apples and acorns, catalog the changing weather and embrace all that nature has to offer during this time of transition. One of my absolute favorite parts of being a teacher is creating special keepsakes and artwork to commemorate our time in the classroom. We continue to work on ways we can include families as part of the classrooms, even if they can't physically be in the classroom. We look forward to the days, hopefully in the near future, when we can invite them back inside for classroom celebrations and events.

Wishing you all a season of gratitude and thanks, and the chance to embrace the beauty of the season.

As always, when we give thanks and count our blessings, we give thanks for our preschool families, and for being part of the St. John's Preschool Family.

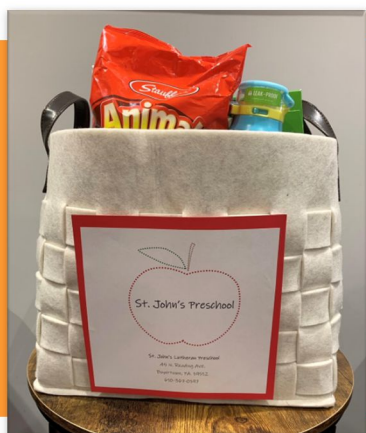


Introducing Mrs. Alishia Toub:

Hello! I'm Alishia Toub and am excited to be starting my first year at St. John's Preschool. I teach the 4-year olds on Monday, Wednesday, and Friday morning. Prior to joining St. John's I received my Elementary Education Degree from Kutztown University and gained experience as a head teacher of the 3 and 4-year old class at Wigwam Daycare before I had children.

More recently, I was privileged to be a stay-at-home mother to my son Alex and daughter Piper. Piper is currently in the transitional kindergarten here at St. John's and Alex is in first grade at Washington Elementary.

I currently reside in Barto with my husband, Paul, children, and our dog, King. I enjoy spending my time going to the beach with my family, paddle boarding, and sitting down and relaxing with a good book.



Check out the awesome basket the preschool staff donated to the Boyertown Community Library's October 16th Basket Raffle! Our basket included a large variety of preschool-themed goodies like snacks, a water bottle, puzzles, toys, games, a movie, and books. Over \$200 worth of items contributed by the teachers and aides of our preschool. The basket raffle featured over 200 baskets as part of the library's 2021 Amazing Raise Fundraiser.



PEOPLE CARING FOR PEOPLE NEEDS YOU!

By: Mel Roth

I recently wrote a short note to two members of our congregation as part of our People Caring For People ministry. I shared that from our summer learning program I learned that everything should “begin with love” – our thoughts, our conversations and our actions. For me, this was a reminder of two commandments – love God and love your neighbor. I closed the note letting them know that I have been praying for them for many months, and that I would continue to do so.

A few weeks later, I saw the couple and they thanked me for the note. They then said something that made my heart swell. They said that knowing someone was praying for them was, “the best gift anyone could give them!” Praying for them was a way of following those two commandments.

Will you help give others the best gift possible – the gift of prayer? I invite you to join the People Caring For People (PCFP) team. Our goal is to have every member of our congregation being prayed for regularly and to be contacted (via a note, card or call) every three months by a PCFP team member. To do this, MANY more team members are needed. Currently our team is small in number – about 20 people.

In case you are thinking, “I don’t know how to pray well enough to do this,” push that out of your mind! God hears all our prayers. He doesn’t care if they include multi-syllable words and long petitions or small words with short requests or thanks. And, you can pray from any place – it’s not limited to church or from your knees. He loves ALL our prayers.

I invite you to join this ministry as we strive to become the people and church God wants us to be. For us to reach every member of the congregation, many more people are needed. Will you be one of them? If answering “yes”, contact the church office or melanie@rothlan.com. If you have questions or want to learn more, call me at 610-635-6856.

Save the date

SHOP WITH A COP

December 12 | 4:30 pm | St. John’s

DIRECTOR’S BIG BAND CHRISTMAS CONCERT

December 18 | 7:00 pm | Sanctuary

CHRISTMAS DAY MEAL - TAKE OUT

December 25 | 11:00 am | Fellowship Hall

MEN’S RETREAT

January 28-30 | Off-Site

NEW MEMBERS

Jaclyn & Jonathan Rothenberger

Jackie was born and raised in Boyertown and enjoys taking care of the elderly. She has been doing nursing for the last 20 years with various nursing jobs and currently works at Chestnut Knoll Homecare. Her son, Jonathan, was baptized at St. John’s on October 3, 2021, and Jackie describes him as “loving, but can be a handful being a typical boy at 1½ years old.”



Jackie decided to join the church because not only was she baptized at St. John’s, but she wanted her son to be baptized at the church as well. She is most excited about joining the church because she is looking forward to learning more about the bible and Lutheranism, making friends, and broadening her horizon.

Jackie says she is a very easy person to get along with and she enjoys helping others, going on family trips to the beach to New Jersey and Delaware, walking on hiking trails, and doing things with her son. Welcome Jackie and Jonathan!



WOODY JENKINS WORKSHOP

What’s a congregation to do when in its self-assessment they discover they are in the last stage of the life cycle of a church? During the interim period prior to Pastor Bob’s arrival that’s what happened. And it was again determined 6 months after his arrival. But like anybody with a failing heart in the emergency room, with some pretty violent treatment, the heart’s beating again and we’re out of the hospital - still in rehab but with a good prognosis.

Baptist Pastor, Woody Jenkins will help us to be ever-vigilant in preventing a return visit to the emergency department. The bottom line however - it’s the patient’s responsibility to take care of their own health and well being.

Register online or call the office to take part in this learning opportunity.

WOODY JENKINS WORKSHOP

December 3 | 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm | Lower Level
dinner included

December 4 | 9:00 am - 1:00 pm | Lower Level
light breakfast included

NOVEMBER 2021

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 6:30p Girl Scouts	2 Election Day Preschool Picture Day 11:45a Preschool Staff 6:30p Too Busy Not to Pray	3 Preschool Picture Day 2:00p Homelessness Task Force	4 Operation 143 Delivery 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:30p Irresistible 7:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Cub Scouts 512 8:00p Worship Broadcast	5 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	6 4:30p Come to the Table
7 All Saints Day 9:30a Sunday Church School 9:30a Worship Celebration	8 Newsletter Submission 6:30p Girl Scouts 7:30p Optimist Club of Boyertown	9 Bishop's Conference 6:30p Too Busy Not to Pray	10 Bishop's Conference Preschool Fall Field Trip 6:30p Welcoming All 7:00p Congregation Council	11 Veteran's Day 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 7:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Cub Scouts 512 8:00p Worship Broadcast	12 Donor Sabbath Weekend 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	13 Donor Sabbath Weekend 4:30p Come to the Table
14 Donor Sabbath Weekend 9:30a Sunday Church School 9:30a Worship Celebration	15 6:30p Girl Scouts	16 7:00p Finance Team	17 9:30a Pottstown Soup Kitchen	18 Operation 143 Delivery 9:00a Community Leaders 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:30p Troop Committee 7:00p Boy Scouts 7:00p Cub Scouts 512 8:00p Worship Broadcast	19 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study 6:00p Catechism Retreat Start	20 8:00a Catechism Retreat End 4:30p Come to the Table
21 Christ is King 9:30a Sunday Church School 9:30a Worship Celebration	22 6:30p Girl Scouts 7:00p Thanksgiving Community Service (St. Andrew) 7:30p Optimist Club of Boyertown	23	24 7:00p Thanksgiving Eve Worship Celebration	25 Thanksgiving Office & Preschool Closed 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 8:00p Worship Broadcast	26 Office & Preschool Closed 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	27 4:30p Come to the Table
28 Advent 1 9:30a Sunday Church School 9:30a Worship Celebration	29 Preschool Closed 6:30p Girl Scouts	30				

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Date	Day	Time	Liturgical Day	Special Service	Lector	Prayer	Sound	Ushers	Video
11/7/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	All Saints Day		Nancy Graver	Friz Family	Myles Omlor	Mike Gilbert, Donnie & Mary Kay Heimbach, Barbara Houpp	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	Susan Hill	Bonnie Moatz	Chase Sennott	Carol Sematis, Terry & Sandy Wade, 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	Tom Engle	Brianna Rohrbach	Brian & Ros Moatz	Aiden Martin
11/28/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	Advent 1		Mel Roth	Ros Moatz	Ashley Gheer	Mike Huber, Thomas Huber, Ros Moatz	Scott Scheiry
12/1/2021	Wednesday	7:00 PM		Midweek Service	NA	NA	Myles Omlor	Ben Rohrbach, Bill Rohrbach	Nyla Omlor
12/5/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	Advent 2		Nancy Edwards	Andy & Susan Varzally	Chase Sennott	Ashley Gheer, John Gheer, Darin Moyer, Kevin Moyer	Abbe Grofe
12/8/2021	Wednesday	7:00 PM		Midweek Service	NA	NA	Brianna Rohrbach	Martha Bentley, Terry Wadsworth	Sarah Eidle
12/12/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	Advent 3		Charles Haddad	Mel Roth	Myles Omlor	Mike Gilbert, Barbara Houpp, Gerry Krause, Carol Sematis	Jason Eidle
12/15/2021	Wednesday	7:00 PM		Midweek Service	NA	NA	Ashley Gheer	Jay Herbert, Scott Schiery	Aiden Martin
12/19/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	Advent 4		Missy Endy	Michele Eidle	Chase Sennott	Barry & Becky Erb, Ron & Bunny Riffle	Scott Scheiry
12/24/2021	Friday	3:00 PM	Christmas Eve	Afternoon	Phyllis Kershner	Martha Bentley	Brianna Rohrbach	Martha Bentley, Jay Herbert, Scott Scheiry, Carol Sematis	NA
12/24/2021	Friday	7:00 PM	Christmas Eve	Candlelight	Ben Rohrbach	Lauren Frey	Myles Omlor	Darin Moyer, Kevin Moyer, Ben Rohrbach, Bill Rohrbach	Nyla Omlor
12/24/2021	Friday	9:00 PM	Christmas Eve	Candlelight	Sarah Eidle	Ros Moatz	Ashley Gheer	Brian & Ros Moatz, Terry Wadsworth	NA
12/25/2021	Saturday	10:30 AM	Christmas Day		Terry Wade	Terry Wade	Chase Sennott	Terry & Sandy Wade	Abbe Grofe
12/26/2021	Sunday	9:30 AM	First Sunday after Christmas	Lessons and Carols	NA	NA	Brianna Rohrbach	Brian & Ros Moatz	Sarah Eidle

NOVEMBER BIRTHDAYS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 Diane Cordero	2 George Herbert Kathleen Smith Lori Weiss	3 Nancy Graver	4	5 Joel Schlegel	6 Ashley Gheer Pamela Matthew
7 Angela Alexander Richard Derr Karen Lewis Gloria Strouse Samantha Yeager	8	9 Samuel Gensemer Thomas Graver	10 Donnie Heimbach	11	12 Amy Quinter	13
14 Chelsea Musser Scott Scheiry	15 Bonnie Moatz	16	17 Jim Kershner	18 Luke Baker Christine Boice	19 Chelsea Boyer Salie Derr Linda Schlegel Carol Yoder	20 David Haws
21 Christopher Miller Jr. Colleen Ritter	22 Lisa Salenga Michael Xanthopoulos	23	24 Stephanie Heintz	25 Patricia Strunk	26 Gail Longacre	27 Barbara Schaeffer
28 Barbara Moyer	29	30				



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

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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 October 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
Amy Willson, Preschool Director

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parishadmin@stjohnsboyertown.org
awillson@stjohnsboyertown.org



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