



"I find out what the world needs. Then I go ahead and try to invent it."
Thomas Edison, inventor (1847–1931)

That's a powerful Purpose Statement! He knew who he was because he had taken the time to gain insight into his own personality. He knew the gifts and talents and interests that he had, developed them, and used them in a way that mattered not only to the people of his time, but to each and every one of us. That is a life worth living!

As a faith-based organization we say something kind of sort of, but not quite like it.

What's God up to? Where is God crying? Where is God smiling? How can we help?

While it is not our corporately adopted Purpose Statement, what rolls around in my mind is, "Where God is smiling and crying – we join in!"

All of you likely know that I am the last person to see our newsletter before it goes to print. Written by many contributors, edited and formatted by Shannon Omlor, proofread, assembled, and mailed by a number of our faithful volunteers, we are committed to publishing a quality resource each month to keep our members informed, provide connections, and offer opportunities to engage the questions underlined in bold above.

This month is certainly no exception. Our preschool sponsored a Prayer Walk, literally walking from station to station in our Lower Level putting faith into action through thoughtful questions and intentional prayer. That touches my heart deeply! I imagine it results in God smiling.

Our youngest traveler to Mexico, and one of my favorite teachers, Tatum Friz (11 years old), transported me back to the location where she experienced the project funded by our ministry partner Wellspring Karitas; a school for the children of migrant workers who have the unbelievably dangerous and filthy job for \$10 a day burning and cutting sugar cane.

Cathy Krause continues to inform, educate, and inspire us to remember and never forget the gift of God's character – God's personality if you will. As I read it, I imagined St. John's Brass and our magnificent organ bathing us in sounds that just might offer us a glimpse of a heavenly orchestra welcoming us home.

Our new members are already well-imbedded in our ministries and have brought new insights, heartwarming smiles, and energy as they have seemingly seamlessly integrated into what we are doing, fresh insights and possibilities already being discussed by Congregation Council and our Ministry Teams.

Baptisms, new members, members that have worshipped here for 70 years all share a few things in common – the Baptismal Promises – the gifts of being a disciple of Jesus. The outward gifts and inward gifts are present all over the place here at St. John's.

Back to school – already?! Our whole society orients to the rhythm of public education school schedules, not just our children.

Church Picnic!!! Hot dogs, baked beans, and red beet eggs? Choir rehearsals, handbell rehearsals, and we get to hear them in church, too!

All of this ministry activity touches my heart deeply. I can join with God in smiling. I am blessed! So are you...

Be blessed!
Pastor Bob

WHAT'S INSIDE?

Worship News

PAGE 2

End of Summer
Celebration

PAGE 2

Preschool Prayer Walk

PAGE 3

Save the Date

PAGE 4

UPCOMING WORSHIP

TIME AFTER PENTECOST

Green is the liturgical color for the time after Pentecost because it symbolizes growth, new life, and hope. This longest season of the church year follows Pentecost, marking the beginning of the Church's mission and growth in the world. The green color reflects the natural world's growth during this time, reminding us of the spiritual growth and maturation of believers nurtured by the Church and the Gospel.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 10 @ 9:30 AM

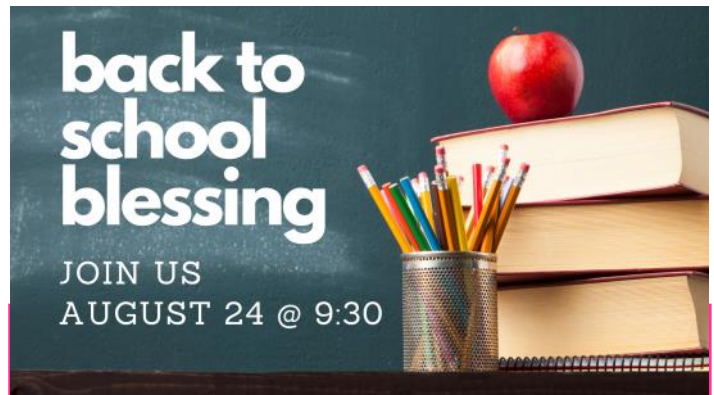
Choir leads singing at worship
Coffee & Conversation held after worship
in the Lower Level.

SUNDAY, AUGUST 17 @ 9:30 AM

Handbells ring at worship

SUNDAY, AUGUST 24 @ 9:30 AM

'Back to School Blessing'
Centre Park Flutes joins our worship service.



Students and Educators -
you're invited to this special worship service!
Let's gather together to offer prayer for
everyone heading back to the classroom.



On Sunday, July 20
we welcomed six new members to St. John's.
Pictured above: Kurt and Beth Anne Stork, Lori and Jesse
Shoemaker, Madison Robb, and Matthew Robb.

We also welcomed Ryan Smith through Holy Baptism.
Pictured with his family:
Michael and Kyiesha Smith and sister, Mia.

We are so grateful to have you join us and look forward
to walking together in faith, fellowship, and service.
May this be a place where you feel loved, supported, and
inspired as we grow together in Christ.



Members of
Joyful Sisters of Service,
Phyllis Kershner and
Betty Long presented a
hand-crocheted blanket to
the Smith family.



PRESCHOOL PRAYER WALK

By: Bethany Calderwood

Why do we do preschool? Most simply, we see preschool as a valuable vehicle to share God's love with families of preschool-aged children. While some of us are involved in the preschool's day-to-day operations, this is truly a ministry of the church. You can join this ministry in a vital role—you can pray for preschool.

We had one Preschool Prayer Walk in July, and we will have another on August 18. Come if you can. Walking alone, or with a partner or two, you can go to different stations in the Lower Level and pray for suggested topics. In addition, post this page of the newsletter somewhere you will see it. Then each time you see it, choose an item and pray for preschool.

How can you join us in praying for preschool? I'm so glad you asked.

1. **Pray for relationships** as students grow in skills of showing kindness, taking turns, sharing, making peace, and resolving conflict.
2. **Pray for learning** as students work on literacy, numeracy, tool use, and motor skills.
3. **Pray for families** who are nurturing their children, investing in their children's growth, and navigating the busy journey of family life in our fast-paced world.
4. **Pray for communication** between teachers and students, teachers and families, students and students, and everyone who is involved in the preschool education process.
5. **Pray for transition** as students start a new school year.
6. **Pray for teachers** to act wisely and effectively.
7. **Pray for a deeper understanding** of God and God's love and God's story for each individual interacting with this preschool ministry.

Thank you for partnering with us in prayer!



A HOPEFUL FUTURE

Reflections from Cuernavaca, Mexico

By: Tatum Friz

“¿Qué quieres ser cuando seas grande?” These words were painted on the wall of the cafeteria at the migrant school in Mexico. It means, “What do you want to be when you grow up?” Next to this question were paintings of different careers like an astronaut and a singer.

In America, teachers and parents ask kids this question starting at a very young age. They are hopeful that we grow up to have bright futures and want us to dream big. We talk about it a lot. When I was younger, I wanted to be a veterinarian and an astronaut and now I want to be a lawyer. Many times the answers change as we grow up because we have opportunities to learn more through our education and life.

In places where there aren't a lot of opportunities, like the migrant center in Mexico, many kids will think that the only option they have when they grow up is to do what their parents do. These kids think they will work at the sugar cane field, so the question on the wall is there to show the kids that they have options other than working in the field like their parents. This makes me think about all the options of jobs we have, and others don't because of the lack of a good education. The teachers at the migrant center want the kids to envision a future beyond the limits of their current circumstances to have a brighter future and hope.

Our team has helped contribute to this hope by raising money to give a new school clean water to encourage kids to stay in school. I believe that we should continue to partner with Caritas and continue all the amazing things we're doing to help people.

"THINE IS THE GLORY..."

A Short, Limited, and Incomplete Discussion

By: Cathy Krause

We sing this, "Thine is the Glory..." but what is the glory? In the Old Testament, glory describes worthiness, wealth, splendor, fame, renown, reputation, or honor. "It is the revelation of God's being, nature, and presence to humankind, sometimes with physical phenomena." Bible Dictionary, pg 472. Attributes of God's glory are holiness, majesty, power, light, and splendor.

In the New Testament, God's glory is personified by Jesus. "Christ both sees and reflects the divine glory." Bible Dictionary, pg 472. Unlike the Old Testament, glory does not need a tabernacle, it resides in the human flesh of Christ. His resurrection and ascension are exhibitions of it, and the church reflects it.

Glory is God's character and spirit; it is constant and eternal. It signifies magnificence or awesome splendor. It is revealed in Jesus Christ and includes his wonder, goodness, and his desire for personal intimacy. It requires the human response of worship, reverence, fear, awe, transformation, and mission.

The latest card sent by Joyful Sisters of Service, reflects on Exodus 33:18-23. Moses is not allowed to see God's glory. He is hidden in a rock cleft while God passes by. How fortunate we are to have Jesus! Jesus takes away the need for the clefts in which we hide from God. Jesus tells Philip in John 14:9-13, "He who has seen me has seen the Father....I am in the Father and the Father is in me....Whatever you ask in my name, that I will do, that the Father may be glorified in the Son."

The glory we give to Jesus in the hymn "Thine is the glory..." we give to God. The words of the hymn are as follows:

Thine is the glory, risen, conqu'ring Son;
endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay.
Lo, Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
Let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
For the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting!
No more we doubt thee, glorious prince of life;
Life is naught without thee; aid us in our strife;
Make us more than conqu'rors, through thy deathless love;
Bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above.
Thine is the glory, risen conqu'ring Son;
Endless is the vict'ry thou o'er death hast won!

Text: Edmond Budry, 1854-1932; tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939

Music: George Frideric Handel, 1685-1759

This discussion of glory is short and incomplete. More learned people than I have written much more on this subject. If you want to explore more, talk to Pastor Machamer or consult the following sources.

Sources consulted:

Evangelical Lutheran Worship. Minneapolis: Augsburg Fortress, Publishers, 2006. 376.

Haynes, Clarence L. "Can We Grasp the Glory of God?" biblestudytools.com/bible-study/topical-studies/can-we-grasp-the-glory-of-god.html

The New Bible Dictionary. Grand Rapids: Wm B. Eerdmans Publishing Co. 1974. 472.

"What Defines the Glory of God?" 2004-2025. biblehub.com/q/what_defines_the_glory_of_God.htm

"What Is the Glory of God?." 20 Jan 2023. <https://www.gotquestions.org/glory-of-God.html>



SUNDAY SCHOOL RESUMES

Sunday, September 7 | 9:30 AM

POTATO PROJECT – FALL HARVEST

Sunday, September 14 | 1:00 PM

Off-site

REGISTER FOR BOTH ONLINE!

Eagle Messenger Article Deadlines

Monday, August 11 for September issue

Monday, September 8 for October issue

Monday, October 13 for November issue

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August 10th at 3:30 PM

Sponsored by: St. John's Lutheran Church of Boyertown
Limited seating - RSVP now!

WORSHIP MINISTRY

Date	Day	Time	Liturgical Day (Special Service)	Acolyte	Altar Assistant	Altar Guild	Assisting Minister	Lector	Media	Prayers	Sound	Ushers	Video
8/3/2025	Sunday	9:30 AM	8th Sunday after Pentecost	Grant Hersperger	Melissa Eidle, Tom Engle	Shirley Hartman, Sue Hill	Madison Robb	Dave Babb	Jason Friz	Michele Eidle	Brianna Rohrbach	Bev & Joe Blake, Susan & Andy Varzally	Jason Eidle
8/10/2025	Sunday	9:30 AM	9th Sunday after Pentecost	Delaney Hersperger	Bonnie Moatz, Mel Roth	Dorothy Breitkreutz	Mel Roth	Cathy Krause	Shannon Omlor	Bonnie Moatz	Myles Omlor	Ed Schaeffer, Carol Sematis, Sandy & Terry Wade	Abbe Grofe
8/17/2025	Sunday	9:30 AM	10th Sunday after Pentecost	Camryn Friz	Bev & Joe Blake	Mary Dierolf, Nancy Edwards	Bev Blake	Michele Eidle	Sarah Eidle	Tom Engle	Myles Omlor	Martha Bentley, Phil Haddad, Barbara Houp, Josee Ruckenbrod	Scott Scheiry
8/24/2025	Sunday	9:30 AM	11th Sunday after Pentecost (Back to School Blessing)	Abby Torres	Tom Engle, Melissa Geary	Mary Kay Heimbach, Heather Murray	Melissa Geary	Missy Endy	Jason Friz	Martha Bentley	Ashley Gheer	Jodi Dykie, Mary Kay & Donnie Heimbach, Jennifer Schlegel	Camryn Friz
8/31/2025	Sunday	9:30 AM	12th Sunday after Pentecost	Philip Derr	George Hill, Amy Moyer	Bonnie Moatz	Amy Moyer	Tom Engle	Shannon Omlor	Mel Roth	Brianna Rohrbach	Ashley Gheer, John Gheer, Sue & George Hill	Jason Eidle
9/7/2025	Sunday	9:30 AM	13th Sunday after Pentecost	Abby Torres	Jen & Jason Friz	Dorothy Breitkreutz	Jason Friz	Krista Fretz	Sarah Eidle	Susan & Andy Varzally	Melissa Eidle	Becky & Barry Erb, Bunny & Ron Riffle	Abbe Grofe
9/14/2025	Sunday	9:30 AM	14th Sunday after Pentecost	Camryn Friz	Michele & Dave Eidle	Melissa Eidle	Amanda Ehst	Mary Kay Heimbach	Jason Friz	Ros Moatz	Myles Omlor	Mike Gilbert, Darrin Moyer, Kevin Moyer, Ed Schaeffer	Scott Scheiry
9/21/2025	Sunday	9:30 AM	15th Sunday after Pentecost	Tatum Friz	Ashley Gheer, John Gheer	Shirley Hartman, Sue Hill	Jennifer Schlegel	Sue Hill	Shannon Omlor	Sue Grofe	Ashley Gheer	Carol & Larry Angstadt, Bev & Joe Blake	Camryn Friz
9/28/2025	Sunday	9:30 AM	16th Sunday after Pentecost	Philip Derr	Melissa Eidle, Mel Roth	Jodi Dykie, Nancy Edwards	Mel Roth	Phyllis Kershner	Sarah Eidle	Friz Family	Brianna Rohrbach	Mary Kay & Donnie Heimbach, Ros & Brian Moatz	Jason Eidle

AUGUST 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	2 11:00a Building a Better Boyertown 4:30p Come to the Table
3 9:30a Worship Celebration	4 Youth Retreat 6:30p Grateful Small Group	5 Youth Retreat 6:30p Teach Us to Pray Small Group 6:30p Jr. Optimist Club	6 Youth Retreat Oley Cluster	7 Youth Retreat 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 6:00p Choir 7:00p Handbells 8:00p Worship Broadcast	8 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	9 4:30p Come to the Table
10 9:30a Worship Celebration 10:45a Coffee & Conversation 3:30p Ellixson's 'Karate Kid'	11 5:00 Newsletter Submission 6:30p Grateful Small Group 7:30p Optimist Club	12 6:30p Teach Us to Pray Small Group 6:45p Support MAG	13 6:30p Worship Team	14 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 8:00p Worship Broadcast	15 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study 9:30a Preschool Summer Fun Days	16 4:30p Come to the Table
17 9:30a Worship Celebration 6:30p Girl Scout Service Leaders Unit	18 6:30p Grateful Small Group 7:00p Preschool Prayer Walk	19 6:30p Finance Team 6:30p Teach Us to Pray Small Group 6:30p Jr. Optimist Club	20 9:30a Pottstown Soup Kitchen	21 9:30a Community Leaders 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 8:00p Worship Broadcast	22 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study 9:30a Preschool Summer Fun Days	23 4:30p Come to the Table
24 9:30a Worship Celebration, 'Back to School Blessing' 11:30a End of Summer Celebration	25 7:30p Optimist Club 9:00a First Aid/CPR Training	26 1:00p Joyful Sisters of Service 6:30p Building a Better Boyertown	27 6:30p Congregation Council	28 10:00a Chestnut Knoll Service 8:00p Worship Broadcast	29 7:00a Men's Small Group Bible Study	30 4:30p Come to the Table
31 9:30a Worship Celebration						

AUGUST BIRTHDAYS

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1 Kay Christman Sarah Eidle	2 Jen Schlegel
3 Virga Brown	4 Joe Blake Shelba DiPietro Donna Little	5 Joan Marburger	6 Aiden Guinther	7 Barry Christman	8 Monica Herbert Aaron Piersol	9
10 Shannon Omlor	11 Benjamin Rohrbach	12 Dorothea Breitkreutz	13 William Daub	14 Arianna Koch	15 Dennis Shollenberger	16 Alex Vogt
17 Betty Long Ruth Schlegel	18	19 Luke Stofflet	20 Mark Stofflet Jr	21	22 Ruth Ann Wren	23 Roberta Lucarelli Brian Moatz
24	25 Joan Snyder	26	27 Alina Friz	28	29 Shirley Hartman Mark Rohrbach	30 Susie Allmendinger Lucille Gehris Cade Sennott
31						



EAGLE MESSENGER

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As children of God and disciples of Christ seeking peace and justice in the world, we welcome, affirm, and include all people into the fullness of God's love. We celebrate and lift up people of all races, cultures, ages, sexual orientations, gender identities, physical or mental abilities, economic statuses, political affiliation, appearances, family status, and citizenship as equally loved and valued in the eyes of God and in this place. All are invited to join this community as we worship God, grow in faith, and strive to love and serve one another.

All, without exception, are welcome in this place.

Return Service Request - Dated Material
Mailed July 25, 2025

WORSHIP

SUNDAY 9:30 AM

IN-PERSON & LIVESTREAM ON YOUTUBE

Office Hours

Monday-Thursday 8:30 am - 3:30 pm

Friday 8:30 am - 12:00 pm

Pastor Bob Machamer

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Ashley Gheer, Intern

Sue Grofe, Finance Team

Donnie Heimbach, Property

Bonnie Moatz, Finance Team

Shannon Omlor, Communications Coordinator

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