

The Eagle

*“I carried you on eagle’s wings
and brought you to myself.”*

**St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
229 South Broad Street
Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania 17740
570-398-1676**

**Our Mission:
*Called Together
Sharing Christ
Serving Others***

October/November 2022

Check out our congregation’s webpage at www.stjl.org, or St. John Lutheran on Facebook

“The average Lutheran invites a friend to worship once every 26 years.” Pat Keifert. Let’s break the average. Invite your neighbors and friends to worship and make our congregation grow! Encourage them to encounter the Holy Spirit among us in Word and Sacrament.

Please send us your email so you can receive updates from St. John at: stjohn@stjl.org

*The Eagle - St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
Jersey Shore, Pennsylvania
"Called Together ... Sharing Christ ... Serving Others"*

Pastors Message October/November 2022

Ecclesiastes 3: For everything there is a season, and a time for every matter under heaven:

"a time to plant, and a time to pluck up what is planted."

As we enter this season of Fall, I treasure the golden colors of mums and other Fall flowers. The flowers, the cornstalks, and the weeds from the summer are now dying off and drying up. We will soon pull them up and throw them in a compost pile and clean up the flower beds and renew the earth with compost. It reminds us that God takes us, he calls us earthen vessels, and He renews us with his Word and the Sacraments, so we can be new vessels to carry his Word to our neighbors and throughout the World. Even though some people forget about their lawns and flower beds, our Lord calls us to follow him and be renewed each season of the year. Bless God's Holy name!

*Yours in Christ,
Pastor Aucker*

The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored during the month of October by Joyce Hudson in memory of her husband Malcolm Hudson.

The Sanctuary Candle is sponsored during the month of November by Agnes Cryder in memory of loved ones and in honor of everyone's birthday.

Worship Wednesday Mornings 10:00 a.m.

Pastor Aucker offers the Sacrament of Holy Communion each Wednesday at 10:00 a.m. at Trinity Episcopal Church. There is plenty of room for more to attend this half-hour service. If you cannot join us for worship Sunday mornings at St. John Lutheran, you are welcomed to join us on Wednesdays at Trinity Episcopal. Usually there is coffee and desert afterwards.

Moravian Lovefeast

It is time to make reservations. If you are interested in enjoying the wonderful music and choirs as they celebrate the Christmas Lovefest at the Lititz Moravian Congregation, including the delicious "love bun" with coffee or chocolate milk during the service, then I urge you to send a letter requesting a reservation starting October 1. Mail your letter requesting tickets to: Lititz Moravian Congregation, 8 Church Square, Lititz PA 17543. Check their website for dates. The dates for Christmas 2022 have not been posted yet. The Christmas Vigils fill fast so send your letter requesting tickets and the date and time (first choice and second choice) after October 1 and include a stamped self-addressed envelope for them to mail your tickets to you.

This love feast has been performed several times each Christmas since the early 1700s and it fills fast. The music is just outstanding and the choirs will touch your hearts with the joy of Christmas. If you have any questions about the service, speak to Pastor or Mrs. Aucker.

Apple Dumpling Time

We invite you to join us for our annual apple dumpling project. Come to the Sunday School room, October 6, 5:00 p.m. and help peel, core, roll, mix and pour, as we prepare apple dumplings. Apple dumplings are packed in pairs. Two dumplings for \$7.00. Orders are due no later than Sunday, October 2. You can pay with the order or at pick up. Checks should be made to **Women of St. John**. Orders and questions to Gloria Ely 570-873-3597 or Barb Hoffman 570-769-6448. They will be baked early Friday morning, **October 7, and available 9:30 a.m. until noon.**

Blessing of the Animals

Pastor Aucker will lead a Blessing of the Animals (dogs, cats, etc.) on Sunday, October 9 at 3:00 p.m., in the parking lot at St. John Lutheran. You are welcomed to bring your pets for a blessing.

Distribution of Food

The New Love Center Food Pantry will host the Food Distribution from 9:00 a.m.- 1:00 p.m. on October 14 and November 11. The New Love Center Food Pantry Jersey Shore served over 200 households in the month of September. Boxes will be packed at 4:00 p.m.; October 13 and November 10.

Service of Healing

Each year closest to the celebration of St. Luke, the physician, we hold a service of healing. This year the Service of Healing and anointing with olive oil will take place on Sunday, October 16. We invite everyone to come for physical, emotional, and spiritual healing from Jesus himself.



ELCA World Hunger

Evangelical Lutheran Church in America

God's work. Our hands.



World Food Day Celebration

Join ELCA World Hunger for a celebration of World Food Day, hosted by Rick Steves and special guest Mark Jansen, CEO of Blue Diamond Almonds. This special event will be streamed online so you can celebrate with ELCA World Hunger wherever you are!

When: Sunday, Oct. 16, 5 p.m. Eastern time

Where: [ELCA Facebook page](#) and [ELCA YouTube channel](#)

RSVP not required; simply visit our Facebook or YouTube page to attend. Facebook and YouTube accounts are not required. Can't stream it live? The recording will be available on Facebook and YouTube after the event is over.

Music and Worship Hymn Picking

We welcome you to join us on Monday, October 17 at 10:00 a.m. as we pick hymns for the upcoming months. We meet in the office.

Fellowship Time

We invite you to join us for a time of fellowship at the Shore Diner on Wednesday, October 19, at 11:30 a.m. You order off the menu.

Bible Study on Proverbs

Pastor Aucker will be leading a Bible Study on the book of Proverbs every Tuesday evening from 6-7 pm, starting September 20. You are welcome to join us for these phrases of wisdom and instruction in daily living.

First Responders Dinner

We invite you to volunteer to serve the First Responders that serve our area. Many of these police, fire, and emergency medical services responders give of their time and effort to train and protect our communities and this dinner is a small token of thanks for their efforts. The dinner will be at 6:30 pm on October 21. Please come early to volunteer.

Worship at Nippenose Village

Pastor Aucker and volunteers from St. James Lutheran will be offering worship at Nippenose Village starting October 23 and November 27 from 1:00-1:30 p.m. This is another way we can connect to our members who are residents at Nippenose. Dates are not confirmed at this time as the Village is closed as a result of the Covid-Sars quarantine.

Reformation Sunday

The Fairplay Brass will again accompany our worship on Sunday, October 30. Their gifted musicians have enhanced our worship for many years and we are so grateful for their accompaniment.

Communions at Promedica

Mrs. Cozette Stoltzfus and Pastor Aucker will be offering the Sacrament of Holy Communion to the residents of Promedica, November 1, at 2:00 p.m.

Fall Cash Sunday

A mailing will be going out in the coming weeks inviting you to donate to the Fall Cash Sunday Offering November 6. This year's offering will go towards the purchase of a new computer and software in the office. The current computer is about ten years old and can no longer be upgraded with the newest operating system. Your support for Fall Cash Sunday is greatly appreciated.

Remembering the Saints

Please join us in remembering our members who have entered into the Resurrection Life this past year on November 6:

Leila Hiller	December 9, 2021
Richard Dershem	February 19, 2022
Lower Wagner	March 26, 2022

Harvest Home November 13

We celebrate Harvest Home Sunday each year to lift up praise and thanksgiving to God for the soil, rain, and crops that grow and supply humankind with food. We invite you to bring your donations to the front of the sanctuary that may be used to feed people in the local area.

Fellowship Time

We invite you to join us for a time of fellowship at the Shore Diner on Wednesday, November 16, at 11:30 a.m. You order off the menu.

Congregation Meeting

Our annual meeting to elect council members, synod delegates, Trinity Endowment members, and the 2023 budget will be held after worship on Sunday, November 20. The last Sunday of the church year.

Many Thanks

We extend our great appreciation to the Women of St. John for their recent donations to the ministries of the Church. They donated \$300 to Lutheran World Relief for mailing the 118 personal care kits the congregation members assembled September 11. They donated \$500 to the Jersey Shore Summer Recreation Program. They donated \$500 to Spring Cash Sunday which went to new paraments for the church and they donated \$500 for Fall Cash Sunday that will go towards a new office computer (that is now ten years old) and software. Thank you very much for your generosity. The Women of St. John are selling cookbooks and knives as part of their fund-raising effort.



God's Work Our Hands Sunday

Thank you, thank you, thank you. With help from Thrivent Action grants, twenty some volunteers, the Women of St. John for their donation of \$300 for shipping, Christine and Dave Barner for delivering them to the collection center at Lykens, Pennsylvania, and Jesus, we assembled 118 Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief. LWR sent 8,400 Personal care kits to Ukraine and Poland to support the refugees from the war which emptied the warehouse in New Windsor, Maryland. Our efforts will resupply the warehouse for future emergency needs.

Update on the Rising Anew Campaign. We continue to pay on the loan from the ELCA Mission Investment Fund. Currently our loan is down to \$220,172 as of September 1, 2022. Thank you everyone for your support in paying down the loan and your continued commitment to the ministries of St. John Lutheran Church. For those who wish to contribute to the Rising Anew Campaign, please write your check to: St. John Lutheran, earmark on the memo line: "Rising Anew" and put it in an envelope with your name and envelope number on the envelope and place it in the offering plate.

Remember our Home bound members with your prayers, cards, and visits

Agnes Cryder, 201 S. Broad Street, Apt. 2, Jersey Shore PA 17740

Barbara & Charles Long, 140 Valley View Drive, JS. 570.398.2252

Dave Mitchell, 111 West Highland Street, PO Box 35, Avis, PA 17721. 570.753.5651

Mary Pepperman (July 23), 1101 Michael Street, Jersey Shore PA 17740
570.398.2780.

Jane Hunter Shaffer, Rose View Nursing and Rehabilitation, 1201 Rural Ave., Williamsport PA 17701,
570-323-4340

Jim & Stella Barnard, 502 Pine Creek Ave, Jersey Shore, 570.398.2284

Remember those serving in the military with your cards and prayers:

Sgt. Myers, Maddison
8205b Eberle Loop, Fort Campbell KY 42223

Automate your regular offering

Do you know that nearly \$4,000 per month is given electronically by members of St. John? St. John Lutheran Church wants to remind you that we offer electronic giving as a way to automate your regular offering. Electronic giving provides convenience for you and much needed donation consistency for our congregation. Getting started is easy. Authorization forms and additional information are available from the church office, 570-398-1676.

Vanco Mobile app

St. John Lutheran offers a convenient way to support the ministries of St. John. Now you can download the “Vanco Mobile Faith” app from your app store for your cell phone. This feature is also on our web site and Facebook site. Enter your email, make up a password, and walk through the choices to give the church an electronic donation by check or debit/credit card. If you have any questions, contact Scott Mitchell.

We also offer VancoText:

Simply send a text message to 570-865-1101 with the amount you would like to contribute (example: 25). Within a few minutes, you’ll be sent a text with a link to register. Click on the link and enter your cardholder’s name and credit or debit card information. Once your registration is complete, you will receive a text verification and a receipt of your donation via email.

For future giving, send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically! You can even text “repeat” to make it a recurring donation. VancoText is one of the fastest, easiest ways to give.

We hope you enjoy this new way to share your generosity and we thank you for supporting your church.

CHURCH TREASURER:

Due to the end-of-the year resignation of Scott Mitchell, we are searching for someone to serve as church treasurer. If you are interested, please talk to Bill Ely or Becky Ward.

Weis Certificates

As a special fundraiser for church projects, we are selling Weis Markets gift certificates each Sunday after worship or during office hours during the weekdays. You can buy \$10, 20, 50, 100 certificates. You pay \$10, take them to the store and use them like cash to buy \$10 worth of groceries. The church earns 5% from Weis Markets. While that may not seem like much, if 100 families in the congregation spend \$100 per week on groceries that 5% would add up to \$26,000 per year with very little effort other than buying and reselling them. It is a great way to support the youth ministries of St. John.

Our on-going Needs

Sponsors sheets are available by the Office for the Sanctuary Candle, Weekly Bulletins, Flowers, and Bread Donors. You can sponsor any of the above by placing your name on the sponsor sheets and they will be listed in the bulletin. Enclose money in your offering envelope: Sanctuary candle \$6; Weekly bulletin \$17; Flowers are provided by Russell Florists (\$50), or use our beautiful arrangement of silk flowers \$25; or you can provide your own. If you wish to provide your own, please contact Mrs. Aucker. Payment should be made to “St. John Lutheran Church.”

AmazonSmile

What is AmazonSmile?

AmazonSmile is a website operated by Amazon that lets customers enjoy the same wide selection of products, low prices, and convenient shopping features as on Amazon.com. The difference is that when customers shop at AmazonSmile (smile.amazon.com), the AmazonSmile Foundation donates 0.5% of the price of eligible purchases to the charitable organization (in this case, St. John Lutheran) selected by customers. Amazon charges no fees.

How does my charity receive the donations?

Each quarter, the AmazonSmile Foundation makes donations by electronic fund transfer. Donations are transferred approximately 45 days after the end of each calendar quarter. In the last quarter, we received \$31.40. Please try it and help support the ministries of St. John Lutheran. Every small gift can make a big difference.

Mission Support

You can do your part to “make the Good News of Jesus Christ known around the world.” Mission Support is a separate item that is not part of our church budget. Mission Support goes to support the salaries and ministries of the Upper Susquehanna Synod (including Camp Mt. Luther, and the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (office in Chicago) and its numerous ministries around the world including youth ministries, ministries supporting congregations, theological training of pastors at our eight seminaries, and our disaster response partnerships around the world. Your regular contributions, as a separate line item electronically or on your envelope, to support the wider ministries of the Church are greatly appreciated. ***If each family at St. John made a commitment to give \$15 per month to Mission Support, we could not only fulfill our commitment as we did in the past, but we would be supporting the wider ministries of our Church to make Christ known throughout the world.***

We received Thank You notes from recipients of the Trinity Lutheran Avis Endowment Fund Scholarship:

I am sincerely honored to have been selected to receive the Lutheran Avis Church Scholarship. Thank you very much. Its greatly appreciated.

Thanks again,
Riley Welshans

I can not thank you enough for granting me with such a generous amount for the scholarship. I am a labor and delivery nurse intern right now and this money one get me one step closer to hopefully be a labor and delivery nurse for the rest of my life.

Thank you so much!
Hailey Meixel

Thank you for taking the time to review my application and selecting me as a recipient of the Trinity Lutheran Avis Church Scholarship. I am very appreciative of your donation toward my education.

Sincerely,
Hannah Wool

Thank you so much for the consideration and more importantly granting me a scholarship. It has come in handy for this semester and I can't appreciate it enough. This money made it easier to buy all my books for this semester. I can't thank all of you enough for this scholarship.

Thank you again,
Jon Cramer

Thank you so much for the scholarship money! It came at a perfect time and truly made me feel blessed. I appreciate it beyond words.

God bless,
Devin Lombardo

Youth Ministry

The Middle and High School Youth Groups will be meeting Monday, October 24, 2022, at 6:00 p.m. and Monday, November 28 at 6:00 p.m.



Upcoming St. John/St. James Youth Group Events

As we begin the new academic year, we invite you to join us for the upcoming youth activities and we encourage you to bring your friends, too.

We thank the Eisner family for opening their swimming pool for the youth on August 28.

Sunday, Sept 25, 2002. Mrs. Eisner will host an information meeting after worship about the 2024 ELCA National Youth Gathering that will be held in New Orleans on July 16-24, 2024. This meeting is for both Middle School and High School youth and their parents. We encourage all our Middle and High School youth to consider attending. Registration will be in the Fall of 2023 and so we need to plan fund-raising activities soon for those interested in going. Check out the website for further information and videos: elca.org/2024YouthGathering



Monday, Sept 26, 2022. 6:00 p.m. Youth Group meeting for Middle and High School Youth. Project: Assemble Seafarer Satchels. Pastor will be showing a video and information about the project. A meal will be provided. Any suggestions for the meal? Text Pastor with suggestions for food to eat, 570-916-1317.

Check out the following web site. It has lots of pictures about the ministry of Seafarers in New York City. Rev. Martha McCracken who grew up at St. John Lutheran in Jersey Shore served as President of Seafarers International. We assemble these satchels in honor of her and those sailors who provide goods to America via ship.

[Seafarers International House](https://www.sihnyc.org)
<https://www.sihnyc.org>

Sunday, October 9, 2022. CROP Walk in Williamsport on the dike. We can meet in front of St. Mark's Lutheran Church. It would be wonderful if we could get a group of youth willing to walk in the annual CROP Walk. Funds raised are divided among four foods pantries including the New Love Center in Jersey Shore. I have additional information for anyone wishing to register and walk. This is a fundraiser that helps our community.



Monday, October 24, 2022. 6:00 p.m. Youth Group meeting. Theme to be announced. A dinner will be provided. Suggestions for what food to eat may be texted to Pastor at 570-916-1317.
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Sunday, October 30, 2022. All Hallows Eve Party, 4-6 pm. For our younger youth.



Sunday, October 30, 2022. Pine Creek Corn Maize. 4:00 p.m. Meet in Avis at the Corn Maze entrance at 4:00 p.m. For all Middle and High School youth.

[204 Tiadaghton Ave., Jersey Shore (Route 220 Pine Creek Exit Crossroads, behind W&W Body Shop). Weekends throughout October! Fridays and Saturdays 4-9pm; Sundays noon-6pm. The corn maze is back and bigger than ever! This year's 13-acre maze is themed "Pine Creek Land," with a challenging design that include wildlife, rails to trails, and camping (kids 12 & under must be accompanied by an adult). In addition to the maze, enjoy food and drink, live music, a pumpkin patch, trolley rides, games, prizes, and more! A different "appreciation night" every Friday. (570)599-6949 / Facebook: Pine Creek Seed Farm]

November 1, 2022, Middle and High School Youth – We invite you to join us for Youth Quake Jan. 13-15, 2023 in Hotel Hilton in Harrisburg, PA. The 2023 theme is Re-Ignite from 2 Corinthians 5:17, *"Therefore, if anyone is in Christ, the new creation has come. The old has gone, the new is here!"* **Registration deadline is November 1.** Please register with Pastor or Cathy Eisner before November 1 for this Friday-Sunday retreat of band music, speakers, and small groups with youth from across the region. The Youth Quake is held inside a hotel and is covered with security for our protection.

QUAKE 2023

RE:IGNITE

This Youthquake will be held at the Hotel Hilton in Harrisburg

Monday, November 28, 2022. 6:00 p.m. Youth Group meeting. Theme to be announced. A dinner will be provided. Suggestions for what food to eat may be texted to Pastor at 570-916-1317.

December, date and time will be posted in the bulletin. Mrs. Myers will be demonstrating and leading a presentation for our younger youth on making gingerbread houses. Watch the bulletin for the date and time.



Thursday, December 22, 5:00 pm. Christmas Caroling being led by Mrs. Hollick. Come get into the Christmas spirit by visiting some of our shut-ins and singing their favorite Christmas carols. Food afterwards.



We are seeking youth to take on leadership roles and adult chaperones to accompany future youth activities. Our Youth Ministry Committee meeting will be Monday, November 21 at 7:00 pm. to plan future youth events.

Check out our congregation's webpage at www.stjl.org.

Our worship services are broadcast live each Sunday morning on Facebook at 9:30 a.m. on St. John Lutheran, Jersey Shore, Facebook site.

Remember St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church in your will! Your gifts to the St. John Lutheran Endowment Fund are held in perpetuity and the interest will continue to support the ministries of St. John and the community forever!

"The average Lutheran invites a friend to worship once every 26 years." Pat Keifert.

Let's break the average. Invite your neighbors and friends to worship and make our congregation grow! Encourage them to encounter the Holy Spirit among us in Word and Sacrament.

Remember the deadline for the December/January newsletter is November 15. Please submit your articles early to the church office.