

FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 W. King Street
York, PA 17401-1307
Phone: 717-843-8597



Fax: 717-699-1227

Website: www.firststjohns.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO

Non Profit Org.
U.S. Postage
PAID
York, PA
Permit # 260

DATED MATERIAL



PARISH VISITOR

FIRST ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
WE ARE AN OUTREACH CHURCH

Be together at First St. John's - Your Community Church and Your Family in JESUS

Monthly
Newsletter



VOLUME 50 ISSUE 8

Website: www.firststjohns.com

AUGUST 2018

FSJ COVER

Therefore, seeing that we have this ministry, as we have received mercy, we faint not. But have renounced hidden things of dishonesty, not walking in craftiness, nor handling the word of God deceitfully; but by manifestation of the truth commending ourselves to every man's conscience in the sight of God. But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost. @ Corinthians 4 (1-3).

These verses came to mind when I was pondering the current state of affairs here at First St. John's Lutheran Church. At such a time of uncertainty, we have the one assurance we can anchor ourselves in to face the perceived pounding waves. That assurance being the mercy and promise of God that *we can do all things through Christ who strengthens us! If He be for us, who can be against us!*

Who of us can honestly say that we have grown one iota in life, but for the adversity, failure, trials and tribulations that life throws our way (God's discipline). It is during times like these, a time where the church itself is seeking a solid financial foundation and a new shepherd to lead this congregation, that an opportunity has been offered up for each of us to stand up say; "Lord, here am I, send me, send me!!" ***For after all, God has a purpose for each of us here (and to everything there is a season) and this is our season to pick up the cross and move forward!*** We all have talents; let's use them and forge the future of this great house of worship.

A quick update on matters at FSJ...as we near August, your church council and supporting committees, including specifically the futures committee, continue diligently working behind the scenes, not only to fill the pastoral vacancy, but to also complete a full review of the issues such as the roof repair, HVAC, cleaning and overall freshening up of the various church gathering areas.

Finance committee is currently beginning the prep work to initiate the budget process for 2019 and the 1H 2018 Financial statements should be completed very shortly.

Lots of opportunity, raise your hand, give a shout. God wants to move you to make a difference!!

We thank God for you in all that we do and trust the Lord will move each of us to give as we have been given to.

Blessings,

Geoff Abendschoen

President



President's
REPORT



SUNDAY WORSHIP

SERVICE 8:15 AM
(New time until the end of August).

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION 9:30 AM

"Till all have heard! Thanks be to God!"

REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

- Sunday -** 8:15 AM Sunday Worship
9:30 AM Bible Study
- Monday -** **PANERA BREAD DISTRIBUTION 9:30-11:00 AM**
- Tuesday -** 6:00-8:00 PM Young Lives (Begins again in fall)
6:30 PM - Alcoholics Anonymous
- Wednesday** 6:30 PM - Adult Choir (Begins again in September)
- Thursday** 6:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

www.firststjohns.com

WELCOME

The mission of this church is to proclaim the Gospel of Jesus Christ!

Our major objective is for all to know Jesus as Lord and be an effective magnet involving lives for Jesus Christ. Worship should always be focused on God, the time honored traditions of worship are observed here, we want worship to be glorifying to God, honoring to God and reminding us of the greatness and glory of God. People say that they have truly worshipped after our Sunday morning service.

We are a very welcoming church and we want to help you to know Jesus.

Contact Us

Phone 717.843.8597

E-Mail: firststjohns@verizon.net

First St. Johns Lutheran Church
140 W. King St., York PA 17401

Copyright © 2016 / All rights reserved.

SUNDAY SERVICES

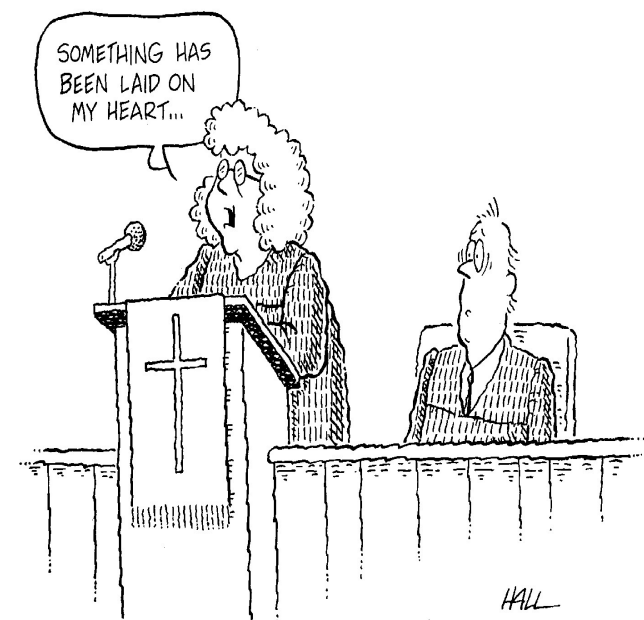
Communion services are held on the second and fourth Sundays of the month,

We print bulletins in English (small and large print), and Chinese for morning worship. Please contact us in advance if you need a Spanish bulletin.

PHONE: (717) 843-8597



THE ULTIMATE TORTURE FOR THE CHOIR DIRECTOR (AMONG OTHERS)...



Atomic alto Gladys Thundermuffin departs from the selection listed in the bulletin to do a solo interpretation of the Hallelujah Chorus.

© 1991 Doug Hall. More at leadershipjournal.net/Cartoons

Community 106.1 FM
WYCO LP FM

YORK COUNTY'S FIRST NON-COMMERCIAL PUBLIC RADIO STATION
140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 community106.1@gmail.com (717) 848-5010



106.1 FM
COMMUNITY RADIO

106.1 FM COMMUNITY RADIO

SATURDAY SEPTEMBER 22nd MARK YOUR CALENDAR GAMES PRIZES and GOOD FOOD

A celebration picnic is planned for church members and all radio volunteers.

EVERYONE IS INVITED.

The radio station will reach its' third year of broadcasting the Gospel in Word, music and community outreach 24/7.

We plan to hold the picnic at the church located at 140 West King Street 11AM till 3PM.

Please RSVP to Lois Hollinger or call the station phone number (717) 848-5010 or you may e-mail community106.1@gmail.com. Please leave your name and phone number.

Come and help us celebrate 3 years of spreading the Gospel via radio in York, PA.



OPEN LETTER TO ALL FIRST ST. JOHN'S MEMBERS

Joyce and Gordon Moul have announced that they will retire from radio on or about September 28th or 29th, 2018. The radio station will have reached three years of continuous operation under the same ownership. This milestone will open new possibilities for the future of WYCO LP. under the terms of its' license. It has been an honor and privilege to work for F.S.J. as your leaders of the all-volunteer radio station and great group of volunteers.

From the first thought that a new radio station could be built in York, the plan "A" was to join hands with our sister congregations in a common cause of spreading Jesus's Gospel and that the radio station would be common ground for all LCMS members. Plan "A" has been our hope for the past 5 years, but this hasn't happened.

When we leave we have plan "B" to place the license in the stewardship of the members of F.S.J. and go off the air. The license can be held safely for up to a year while remaining off the air, and this time may allow for re-organization as the license and all systems and equipment are to be secured so if anyone wants to restore the Gospel to 106.1 it will be possible to return to the air.

We want to thank everyone who has listened to 106.1 FM and our appreciation to all who offered encouragement and support. Your time and financial gifts helped achieve 3 years of ministry.

We are planning a celebration of this success on Saturday September 22nd and invite all with interest to join us for a picnic lunch with games and prizes 11 AM until 3PM at 140 West King Street in York. RSVP please to Lois Hollinger or message 717 848 5010 or e-mail community106.1@gmail.com.

Gordon and Joyce plan to remain available if needed and willing to do what we can in an advisory capacity.

Again thank you for the opportunity to be part of God's plan for F.S.J.

★ THANK YOU!



Worshiping through the order of Holy Communion

The main service is "Holy Communion." We celebrate Holy Communion twice a month and on special days like Christmas and Easter. Once a month we use the order of morning worship. Also, once a month, we use the Matins Service.

The opening hymn is called the "Hymn of Invocation" and many times follows the theme of the day. This hymn may be a prayer to the Holy Spirit, a hymn of praise, a seasonal or a general hymn.

The spoken invocation, "In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit," shows our faith in Him by beginning our worship in His name.

The next part of the service is the "Preparation" and consists of: the Exhortation, which is an invitation to enter God's presence; the Versicles, which are short words of the Bible calling us to worship; the General Confession, in which we plead guilty to all our sins, admit our unworthiness, and ask for forgiveness; the Absolution, in which the pastor pronounces forgiveness of our sins, obtained for all through Christ.

Then we move into the part of the service named "Office of the Word," which consists of: the Psalmody - the Introit, Kyrie, and Gloria in Excelsis; the Word - Salutation, Collect, Epistle, Gradual, Seasonal sentences, Gospel, Creed, and Sermon; the Offerings - Offertory and Prayer.

This is the beginning of the communion service. Next month, I will explain (define) what some of the words, mentioned above, mean.

Ken Sanders
Minister of Music



THE ADULT CHOIR: Sharon Hennig, Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger,

Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, Wally Smith, Quitao Zhang, Ding Wang

THE CHOIR WILL RESUME BLESSING US IN SEPTEMBER



The special offering for the month of

AUGUST

LAMP-Lutheran Association
Of Missionaries and Pilots



If you or someone you know is a shut-in, has an illness or is unable to worship with us due to other circumstances, please let the pastor know.

The church phone number is: 717-843-8597 OR

EMAIL: firststjohns@verizon.net



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter by email please contact the church office at (717) 843-8597 or send an email to firststjohns@verizon.net.



HARVEST OF BLESSING

Provides an after school meal for children between the ages of 4-18 at First St. John's Lutheran church, 140 West King Street, York PA 17401. Phone number [717-843-8597].

Registration is required.

The meals are served Monday through Thursday from 3:00-4:30 PM.

THERE WILL BE NO SUMMER PROGRAM THIS YEAR.



The program will resume in October.

AUGUST 2018 PARISH VISITOR

SEPTEMBER DEADLINE

Articles Due August 17th - Friday

Mail Date August 23rd - Thursday



MEETINGS IN AUGUST

Worship Committee
Church Council

1st-Sunday 1st-12:00 Noon *
Thursday 9th- 5:30 PM**

*Worship Committee will meet at 12:00 Noon on the 1st Sunday of every Month

**Very important meeting. All council members are urged to attend. We need a quorum to vote on several items. Special guest-Gordon Moul. Will answer questions about the radio station.



OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS

Sunday Worship

8:15 AM

Christian Education

9:30 AM

For the months of July and August

First St. John's Lutheran Church

140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597

For updates refer to Website calendar at

AUGUST 2018

CHURCH OFFICE

Phone Number 717-843-8597

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<div>AUGUST</div> <div>Morning Worship starts at 8:15 am.</div> <div>Bible Study 9:30 am.</div>			1	2 <div>N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm</div>	3	4
5 11th Sunday after Pentecost WORSHIP COMMITTEE MTG. 12:00 PM C/ Green	6 <div>Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am</div>	7 <div>A.A. Meeting 6:30 pm</div>	8	9 <div>Church Council Mtg. 5:30 PM</div> <div>N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm</div>	10	11
12 12th Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	13 <div>Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am</div>	14 <div>A.A. Meeting 6:30 pm</div>	15	16 <div>N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm</div>	17	18
19 13th Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	20 <div>Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am</div>	21 <div>A.A. Meeting 6:30 pm</div>	22	23 <div>N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm</div>	24	25
26 14th Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	27 <div>Panera Bread 9:30-11:00 am</div>	28 <div>A.A. Meeting 6:30 pm</div>	29	30 <div>N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm</div>	31	<div>SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERINGS</div> <div>AUGUST</div> <div>LAMP-Lutheran Assoc. of Missionaries & Pilots</div>

After the initial shock of hearing the words, “and my resignation is effective...” confusion is bound to reign for a while. What do we do after our pastor resigns? Generally, a pastoral search committee is formed to go about the task of finding another shepherd for the flock. But the congregation needs to do more than just seek another pastor. While it’s not as easy as A B C, the information that follows will help address other needs of the congregation.

A—ASSESSMENT

Assessment comes in the form of asking questions, even the hard ones. Where are we as a congregation? Did the pastor leave under difficult circumstances? Were there moral, ethical or other problems that damaged testimonies? Is the congregation and/or board divided? What are the vital signs of the fellowship? What are the strengths and weaknesses? Does the church need outside help to be objective and put things back into perspective? Are there problems within the congregation that need to be handled? What will be the process? Are there relationships to be reconciled outside the church?

B—BUDGET

In many churches, the pastor’s salary and benefit package is a substantial part of the annual budget. The expense budget changes when a pastor leaves. There are now new expense items such as: possible interim pastor, pulpit supply, search committee expenses, expense of bringing in pastoral candidates, moving the new pastor to your community, fixing the parsonage, helping with the down payment on a house, etc. Reasonable effort should be made to anticipate these needs so that money can be wisely used. It is not a time that giving should drop off simply because the need to pay the pastor is temporarily gone.

C—COMMUNICATE

Communication is one of the biggest problems on earth today. Good communication is important in churches with or without pastors. It is especially crucial in churches looking for a pastor. The leadership must communicate with the congregation and vice-versa. Communicate the following information: who is in charge, whom to call with a problem, what the plans are, in what timeframe will things take place, what changes are being made in plans previously made. Communication of feelings, expectations, ideas, and assessments is important. Ample communication with prospective candidates will help avoid problems. Don’t make assumptions that things are understood or agreed upon without talking about it. Good communication is not gossip. Sharing confidential information, pet issues that become divisive, criticism or anything else that does not edify is gossip.

D—DEVELOPMENT

Develop a Biblical plan of action during the time you are without a pastor. The plan should be for a year or two. While the times for securing a pastor vary, it is a fairly lengthy and tedious process. A plan of action for growth, outreach, fellowship and worship will give the congregation direction and security. It will draw people together for common goals and encourage the use of spiritual gifts among the Body of Christ. Obedience brings joy and enthusiasm. Joyful churches are attractive churches.

E—ENCOURAGEMENT

Encourage one another through prayer and fellowship. Encourage loyalty to Christ, the church and to the Christian walk. Encourage involvement in the church’s ministries.

F—FEELINGS

When a church loses a pastor for any reason, “feelings” will be present. People may have mixed feelings. There may be a sense of grief, depression, anger, bitterness, joy, hurt, fear, bewilderment, disappointment, disillusionment or other emotions. People’s relationships to the pastor vary and their feeling will differ accordingly. If emotions are “stuffed,” suppressed or incorrectly handled, deeper problems will develop that will hinder the next pastor’s ministry.

G—GOD

God’s work does not stop with the loss of a person, however important he or she may be. Verses normally applied to individuals are equally true for churches: “My grace is sufficient for you...I can do all things through Christ who strengthens me...If any man lack wisdom, let him ask of God”—the verses are too numerous to list here. God is sovereign. His goal is a glorious church made up of people who are being conformed to the image of Christ. The process of dealing with the needs and problems of a congregation is as important to God as the goal itself. The commands in Scripture are God’s process to move us in the direction of His goal. During the time your church is without a pastor, allow God to refine you in the process of becoming Christ-like by squarely facing the issues you would not otherwise have to deal with if your pastor were present. **BY PAUL THYREN**

Paul Thyren and his wife, Marsha, have served Grace Bible Church since 2002. They have four children and four grandchildren. Pastor Paul is a graduate of Moody Bible Institute, Calvary Bible College (BS, 1970), Dallas Theological Seminary (ThM, 1974), and Grace Theological Seminary (DMin, 1996). He has also been a part-time teacher at New Tribes Bible Institute, Moody Bible Institute (Milwaukee), and Bible Colleges in Ukraine.

STEWARDSHIP: AUGUST 2018

When it comes to stewardship, a favorite Bible verse is the account of the widow's mite (Luke 21:1–4). It's a moving account. Our Lord praises the seemingly small gift of two copper coins given by a poor widow above the abundance of gifts given by the rich, saying, "Truly, I tell you, this poor widow has put in more than all of them" (Luke 21:3).

And that is usually where we stop. But the text goes on. “For they all contributed out of their abundance, but she out of her poverty put in all she had to live on” (Luke 21:4).

“She ... put in all she had to live on.” She gave everything. She held nothing back. She trusted that the Lord who made her and all creatures, who gave her everything she had, who redeemed her from her own sin, from death, and the power of the devil, who called her by the Gospel and enlightened her with His gifts of Word and Sacrament, would continue to do this. He would provide her with all that she needed for this body and life because that is the character of the God she had.

But this is not why we give small gifts. Her gift, though it appeared small, was actually large. When we are tempted to give small gifts it is precisely because we want them to be small! We don't trust the Lord to provide for us.

We give small gifts because we lack faith in the One who created us, redeemed us, sanctifies and keeps us in the one true faith. We give small gifts because we doubt that God will really give us what we need and desire. We give small gifts because we are not content with what God has already given.

We are not slaves, children of the slave woman, under the Old Covenant (Gal. 4). We are adopted sons of the free woman. And since we are sons, we are also heirs. And heirs receive the inheritance. For everything is already ours in Christ. And thus, moved by the willing spirit of adoption, we do the will of God in financial matters far beyond all that done by those under the Old Covenant who were forced by legal demands.

So what have you decided to give? How do I decide what to give? Let the Scriptures be your guide.

We are to give proportionally to what we have received from God's giving to us (Luke 12:48; 1 Cor. 16:1-2, 2 Cor. 8:12). But you have not been set free to give nothing. See that you excel in the grace of giving (2 Cor. 8:7).

We are not free to live selfishly outside the Gospel, without regard for God who gives us all good gifts, without generosity for our neighbor who needs us and our gifts, without supporting the community of faith in which we live, without care for our spiritual fathers and those who teach and help raise our children in the faith, without resources for the poor and needy – in short, we are not free to live unto ourselves, hoarding what God has given us only for us.

For love is the fulfillment of the law (Romans 13:10). And the sum of the law is this: Love God and love your neighbor (Matt. 22:34-40). We love because He first loved us. We give because He has given to us.

Luther once said, “Possessions belong in your hands, not in your heart” (LW 14:240). There is a reason your 10 fingers spread apart. With your hands you catch God’s gifts for what you need and let the rest fall through your fingers to your neighbors – your family, your friends, your community, your church.



UPCOMING AUGUST SERVICES AT FIRST ST. JOHN'S

August 5th-Communion (11th Sunday after Pentecost)

(8:15 am morning service).

August 12th-Non-Communion (12th Sunday after Pentecost)

(8:15 am morning service).

Seminarian Brett Witmer will be the Guest Proclaimer for this service in place of Pastor Zimmerman.

August 19th- Matins, Non-Communion (13th Sunday after Pentecost)

(8:15 am morning service).

August 26th-Communion (14th Sunday after Pentecost)

(8:15 am morning service).

Bible Study in James at 9:30 AM



Please note that the communion and non-communion services in the beginning of the month have been switched.



To Geoff Abendschoen, Pastor Gene Merrell, Pastor Jonathan Van Sliedrecht, Pastor James Banach, and Pastor Luke Zimmerman for their support and leadership during our Sunday Services. Pastor Zimmerman will lead worship through the end of August.

From the congregation of First St. John's Lutheran Church.

PRAYERS

Ruthetta Fogle
Christians especially in the Middle East– persecuted
Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving
Becky Lupp-illness
Angie Linebaugh-Illness
Susan Null-Cancer
Faith Bentz
Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home
Nancy Hildebrand
Beth Smith
Marianne DeModena-Cancer
Graham Abendschoen-Protection
Patti Tripp-COPD
Christine Neal (Bonnie Abendschoen’s cousin)-Flu.
Bill Stockwell-Radio Host WYCO-Heart Procedure
Frank Fogle (Norma Null’s brother)-In hospital
Brenton Allen-Kidney failure
Olivia Stankiewicz-Healing
Gladys Dietz
Noel Van Slidrecht-Accident
Skip Hildebrand-Sugery



FIRST TIME REQUESTS

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen	Bill Whitekettle	Dawn Frey	Joyce Devan
Gloria Whitekettle	Bill Hildebrand	Ruth Hermann	

LEADERS

Church Pastor, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Nzinski, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Reichel, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Koontz, Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack. District President John Denninger

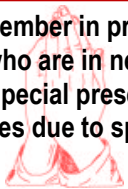
PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For our Community Radio Station
For 140 years
For all of God’s Gifts
Carol Clark
Jeff Rehmeier (Step-Son of Delores Rehmeier)
Carl Roth-Heart & eye problems
Crystal Myers
Quitao Zhang
Wally Smith

SPIRITUAL NEEDS

For all those who do not know Jesus as Lord
For our “action” committees/task forces
Our Community and Families

We remember in prayer those who are in need of God’s special presence in their lives due to special needs:



- 1st - Christina Lin
- 1st - Breana Wilson
- 6th - Norma Null
- 9th - Marguerite Beck
- 15th - Alexis Stover
- 16th - Delores Rehmeier
- 18th - Kay Markel
- 23rd - Edward Abendschoen III
- 24th - Chrystal Myers
- 25th - Tyler Fogle
- 26th - Daniel Montanez
- 26th - Jeanne Noll
- 27th - Idarae Lauer-Olinger



Please Note - On the 1st Sunday service of the month the birthdays for the month will be read. The Birthdays for the current month will be posted on the bulletin board

Early September

- 7th - Deborah Stover
- 9th - Adette Brady

PRAYERS (cont.)

MILITARY

Charlie Malley	U. S. Navy Chaplain
Jose Montalvo	U.S.A.F. - Alaska
Blake McKinney	U.S.C.G.
Clay McKinney	U.S.C.G.
Sean Cooke	U. S. Navy Seal
Brent Kroh	U.S.M.C.
Jake Scott	U. S. Army
Justin Hinkley	U.S.M.C.
Ashlee DeSantis	U.S. Army
Samuel Taylor	U.S. Army
Kevin Kuhn	U.S.C.G.
Lindsay Wood	U.S.A.F.
Dakota Kaufman	U. S. Army in Kuwait
Matthew Holland	U. S. Army
Chuck Barrows	U. S. Army
Megan Messersmith	U.S.A.F.
Krista McKenzie	U.S.A.F.
Jonathan Cosgrove	U.S.M.C.
James Bova	U. S. Navy
Dylan Moynihan	U. S. Navy



FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS



DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD

to First St. John’s Lutheran Church
140 W. King St., York, PA 17401

EVERY MONDAY

From 9:30 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church

DOORS OPEN AT 9:30 AM



COFFEE CUPS / DEER TRACKS are for sale. The cups have our church name on them and the deer tracks are a painted wooden cutout of the church. Call or leave a message on the church phone-(717) 843-8597.

Coffee cups are \$6.00

Deer tracks are \$12.00.



ALTAR FLOWER - OPEN DATES

August 5, 19, 26

All Sundays in September, November, December.

October 7th, 21st, 28th.



THE GYM IS CLOSED



The Pregnancy and Family Resource Center at 1049 N Hartley St., York PA 17404
this is a pro-life group that could use your help in time and resources, see Pastor Jim for details