

FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO



**PARISH VISITOR**  
Monthly Newsletter  
FIRST ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH-WE ARE AN OUTREACH CHURCH

**VOL 53-ISSUE 6** Website: [www.firststjohns.org](http://www.firststjohns.org) **JUNE 2021**



**GOD BLESS AMERICA**

*May all*  
COME TO KNOW  
*the Love*  
OF GOD THE FATHER  
HAPPY FATHERS DAY!  
INSPIRED BY ROMANS 8:15

dayspring.com



## SUNDAY WORSHIP

BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM

SERVICE 11:00 AM

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

### REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

**Sunday -** 9:00 AM Bible Study  
11:00 AM Sunday Worship

**Monday-**  
*Panera bread distribution 9:00-11:00 AM*

**Wednesday**  
6:30 PM - Adult Choir (September through May/June)

**Thursday**  
6:30 PM-Narcotics Anonymous Meeting (Suspended)

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

[www.firststjohns.org](http://www.firststjohns.org)

### WELCOME

Our calling 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](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)

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

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### SUNDAY SERVICES

Communion and Non-Communion, Services are held during the month, Prayer and Preaching Non-Communion services are held on the 5th Sunday of months with 5 Sundays.

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

COME  
WORSHIP  
with us!



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](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net).



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 call the church office.

The church phone number is: 717-843-8597

OR

EMAIL: [firststjohns@verizon.net](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)



## Nativity of Saint John the Baptist

The **Nativity of John the Baptist** (or **Birth of John the Baptist**, or **Nativity of the Forerunner**, or colloquially **Johnmas** or (in German) **Johannistag**) is a [Christian feast day](#) celebrating the birth of [John the Baptist](#). The Nativity of John the Baptist is a high-ranking [liturgical feast](#), kept in the [Roman Catholic](#), [Anglican](#), [Eastern Orthodox](#) and [Lutheran](#) churches. The sole biblical account of the birth of John the Baptist comes from the [Gospel of Luke](#).

Christians have long interpreted the life of John the Baptist as a preparation for the [coming of Jesus Christ](#), and the circumstances of his birth, as recorded in the [New Testament](#), are miraculous. John's pivotal place in the gospel is seen in the emphasis Luke gives to the announcement of his birth and the event itself, both set in prominent parallel to the same occurrences in the life of Jesus.

The sole biblical account of the birth of John the Baptist comes from the [Gospel of Luke](#). John's parents, [Zechariah](#) or *Zachary* — a [Jewish priest](#) — and [Elizabeth](#), were without children and both were beyond the age of child-bearing. During Zechariah's rotation to serve in the [Temple in Jerusalem](#), he was chosen by lot to offer [incense](#) at the [Golden Altar](#) in the [Holy Place](#). The Archangel [Gabriel](#) appeared to him and announced that he and his wife would give birth to a child, and that they should name him John, a name which was unfamiliar in Zechariah and Elizabeth's families. [Acts 4:6](#) refers to a "John" (or "Jonathan", a name combining "John" with "Nathan" such that the "n" at the end of "John" is also used as the first "n" in "Nathan") among the high priests who challenged the apostles' preaching after Pentecost, so the name was not unknown within the wider priestly family. However, because Zechariah did not believe the message of Gabriel, he was rendered [speechless](#) until the time of John's birth.<sup>[4]</sup> At that time, his relatives wanted to name the child after his father, and Zechariah wrote, "*His name is John*", whereupon he recovered his ability to speak ([Luke 1:5–25](#); [1:57–66](#)). Following Zechariah's obedience to the command of God, he was given the gift of [prophecy](#), and foretold the future ministry of Jesus this prophecy forming the text of the [Benedictus canticle](#).





# Music & Worship Notes



A big thank you goes out to the choir for another year of providing special music to enhance worship. Especially for the time spent preparing for the Lessons and Carols service on the fourth Sunday of Advent and the Choral Tenebrae on Good Friday. St. Paul's also extends words of thanks The choir season has come to a close for the summer months. They will resume practice in September beginning on Wednesday the eighth.

September also is when Geoff Abendschoen will begin leading worship full time as our vicar. He will also serve as vicar for St. Paul's.

First St. John's and St. Paul's churches have become a dual parish with one pastor.

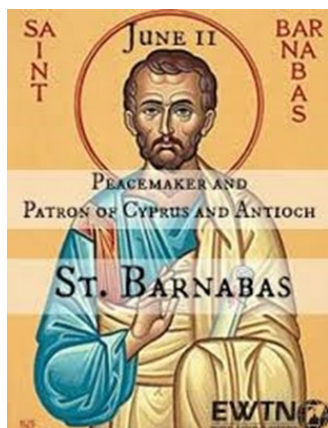
As the two churches move forward under one pastor, (right now, one vicar) they will continue to plan for some joint worship services and fellowship.

A big thank you goes out to Pastor Gene Merrell, retired pastor from St. Paul's, for coordinating guest pastors to preach during these past three years.

We pray that our Lord will bless this dual parish venture and Geoff as we move into the future.

This month there are two religious days and two non-religious day to celebrate. First, we remember the symbol of our country and freedom on Flag Day, June 14<sup>th</sup>. Then we remember our dads on Father's Day, June 20<sup>th</sup>. The religious days are St. Barnabas, the Apostle on June 11<sup>th</sup> and the Nativity of John the Baptist on June 24<sup>th</sup>.

**Ken Sanders,  
Minister of Music**



**THE ADULT CHOIR:**  
**Karen Hildebrand,  
Lois Hollinger,  
Lois Stambaugh,  
Dave Stambaugh,  
Ding Wang,**

## Scripture of the Month

Acts 2:

- 1 When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- 2 And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.
- 3 Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and one sat upon each of them.
- 4 And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.



## Bible Study



9:00 AM

**JUNE 2021  
PARISH VISITOR**

JULY 2021 DEADLINE

Articles Due

Friday, 18th

Mail Date

Thursday, 24th

**Newsletter**

## MEETINGS IN JUNE

**Worship Committee**

**To be announced**

**Church Council**

**10th (Thursday)**

**Future Committee**

**1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month**



## UPCOMING JUNE 2021 SERVICES

June 6th, Communion (2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

June 13th, Non-Communion (3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

June 20th, Communion (4<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

June 27th, Non-Communion (5<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost)

June




**CHURCH OFFICE**  
Phone Number 717-843-8597

First St. John's Lutheran Church  
140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597




**JUNE 2021**

**OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS**  
Bible Study 9:00 AM  
Sunday Morning Service 11:00 AM


SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b> Future Com. Mtg. 9am Adult Choir 6:30 pm	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	
<b>6</b> 2nd Sunday after Pentecost C/ Green	<b>7</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b> Adult Choir 6:30 pm	<b>10</b> CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING. 6:00 PM	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> H.O.B. Board Mtg. 2:30 pm
<b>13</b> 3rd Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	<b>14</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am Flag Day	<b>15</b>	<b>16</b> Future Com. Mtg. 9am Adult Choir 6:30 pm	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>
<b>20</b> 4th Sunday after Pentecost C/ Green	<b>21</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>22</b>	<b>23</b> Adult Choir 6:30 pm	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>
<b>27</b> 5th Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	<b>28</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>29</b> LAY READER Dick Sindlinger	<b>30</b> Adult Choir 6:30 pm USHER			



**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 9:00 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church  
**DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM**

**FIRST ST. JOHN'S MEMBERS AND GUESTS**  
WE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGE YOU.  
ENJOY OUR "LIVE" WORSHIP.



*Welcome*  
to Our Church

*Women's Care Center*  
**Pregnant?**

**WOMEN'S CARE CENTER**  
Formerly Pregnancy & Family Resource Center  
40 South Richland Avenue  
York, PA 17404  
Phone: (717) 854-6285





**PRAYERS**

Ruthetta Fogle  
Christians especially in the Middle East– persecuted  
Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving  
Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home  
Joyce Devan-Health issues  
Ruth Strathmeyer-Health issues  
Kim Thompson-Health issues  
Susan vanDyk-Baum  
Ed Hanes (Nancy Hildebrand’s brother)-Health issues  
Philip Rogers-Health issues  
Bruce Blankenstein-Wife’s Health issues  
Vinnie Cristaldi-Health issues

**FIRST TIME REQUESTS**

**SHUT-IN MEMBERS**

Bonnie Abendschoen  
Joyce Devan  
Dawn Frey

**LEADERS**

Church Pastor, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Nzinski, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Seifferlein (Replaced Adam Koontz), Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack. District President John Deninger

**PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING**

For all of God’s Gifts  
Pastor Gene Merrill-Healing

**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:**



**4th - Willard Starner, Sr.  
10th - Jaime Rohrbaugh**

**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 July Birthdays**

**1st - Nancy Hildebrand  
9th - Linda Billet**

**PRAYER LIST (cont.)**

**MILITARY**

Sgt. Tyr Abendschoen U. S. Army

**POLICE**

Jonathan

**Bonnie Abendschoen**

138 Crown Pointe Drive  
York, PA 17402

**Dawn Frey**

382 West North Street  
York, PA 17401

**Joyce Devan**

2408 Lovegren Court  
York, PA 17404

**If you are aware of any changes with those on the list please contact the church office.**

We encourage you to drop a card or letter to our shut-ins to let them know that they are missed and a valued member of the congregation.

**PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS**

The next three months (April-June) Alms collection will go towards the church assistance program. Gift cards are acceptable.

The first quarter Alms \$152.49 will be given to Veterans Helping Hands



**STEWARDSHIP-JUNE 2021**

“There are three conversions necessary to every man: the head, the heart, and the purse.” Attributed to Luther, though yet to be located in his vast writings, this statement echoes what Jesus taught about hearts and treasures. He said, “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” (Matthew 6:21; Luke 12:34)

But which conversion comes first? I submit that the order is this: first the head, then the purse, then the heart. Let’s explore this topic.

Our Lord Jesus Christ dwelt among us to save us. He took on our flesh, fulfilled the demands of the law in our place, became sin for us, and suffered torture and death on our behalf. He did this in order that we would be free from sin, death, and hell. He gives us what He accomplished through Baptism, Absolution, and the Lord’s Supper. And so, He doesn’t just do it for us but gives it to us. He makes what He did ours by making us His. Thus, we are called by His name: Christians. We have a new life in Him.

Through the preaching of Law and Gospel, God grants us repentance, a changing of our minds. It is a conversion of the mind. We are called to turn away from our sins and turn toward Him for forgiveness, life, and salvation. For when God calls us away from something, He is, at the same time, calling us to something.

And thus, He calls us to a new life, with new deeds. This is the conversion of the purse. Jesus said that “it is easier for a camel to enter through the eye of a needle than for a rich person to enter the kingdom of God.” (Matthew 19:24) “For where your treasure is, there will your heart be also.” Notice that our hearts follow our treasures, not the other way around. As Christians, God calls us to invest our treasures in His Kingdom to ensure that the gospel is preached and the sacraments are administered. He calls us to share all good things with the one who teaches us the doctrines of Christ. He calls us to be generous in giving to the church, for it is more blessed to give than to receive.

So where is your treasure? If it is not invested in the kingdom of God, then the only response is repentance – a conversion of the heart – and to begin doing just that. And as our Lord promised, where your treasure is there your heart will be also.

This is not to say that you earn your way into heaven. It is simply to say that as Christians, those who have been made to be temples of the Holy Spirit, who have been given a new life in Christ, who are dead to sin and now alive in Him, we are actually to live – think (conversion of the mind), do (conversion of the purse), and be (conversion of the heart) – a new life in Him. And when you fail, know that God in Christ loves and forgives you and still calls you away from that and to Himself.



## Barnabas

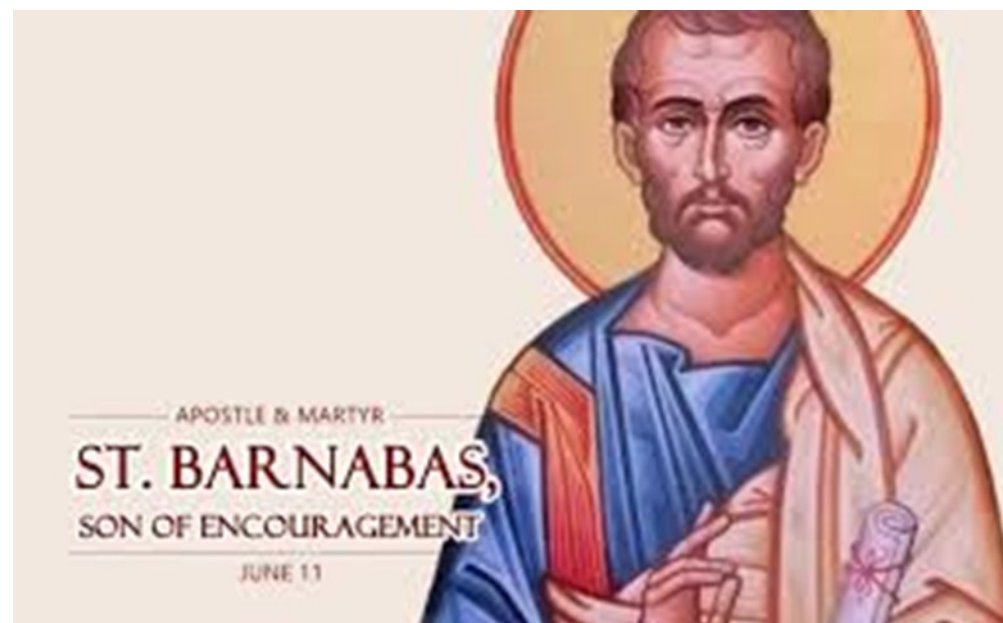
**Barnabas** (/ˈbɑːrnəbəs/; Aramaic: ܒܪܢܒܐܣ; Greek: Βαρνάβας), born **Joseph**, was according to tradition an early Christian, one of the prominent Christian disciples in Jerusalem. According to Acts 4:36, Barnabas was a Cypriot Jew. Named an apostle in Acts 14:14, he and Paul the Apostle undertook missionary journeys together and defended Gentile converts against the Judaizers. They traveled together making more converts (c. 45–47), and participated in the Council of Jerusalem (c. 50). Barnabas and Paul successfully evangelized among the "God-fearing" Gentiles who attended synagogues in various Hellenized cities of Anatolia.

Barnabas' story appears in the Acts of the Apostles, and Paul mentions him in some of his epistles. Tertullian named him as the author of the Epistle to the Hebrews, but this and other attributions are conjecture. Clement of Alexandria and some scholars have ascribed the Epistle of Barnabas to him, but his authorship is disputed.

Although the date, place, and circumstances of his death are historically unverifiable, Christian tradition holds that Barnabas was martyred at Salamis, Cyprus. He is traditionally identified as the founder of the Cypriot Orthodox Church. The feast day of Barnabas is celebrated on June 11.

Barnabas is usually identified as the cousin of Mark the Evangelist on the basis of the term "anepsios" used in Colossians 4, which carries the connotation of "cousin." Orthodox tradition holds that Aristobulus of Britannia, one of the Seventy Disciples, was the brother of Barnabas.

Acts 11:24 describes Barnabas as "a good man, and full of the Holy Spirit and of faith".



JUNE 14

## Flag Day

The American flag is honored each year during Flag Day in remembrance of its adoption on June 14, 1777. President Woodrow Wilson issued a proclamation in 1916 that officially established June 14 as Flag Day.

The colors on the flag represent:  
 Red: valor and bravery.  
 White: purity and innocence.  
 Blue: vigilance, perseverance and justice.

MAY 31

MEMORIAL DAY



JUNE 20

Happy  
Father's  
Day

### A Salute to Fathers

Today, Almighty God, as we observe Father's Day, I lift all the fathers of this world up to You with adoration and love. Fathers play an integral role in the lives of our children, as mentors, providers, caregivers and so much more and also provide a firm foundation on which our children stand. Thank You, Jehovah Jireh, for Your provision and for showering them with Your divine blessings. I pray that You would consecrate fathers and set them apart for Your purpose.

Read full Prayer at:  
[christianstt.com](http://christianstt.com)

CONGRATULATIONS TO DING WANG WHO  
 GRADUATES FROM HIGH SCHOOL ON JUNE 10TH.

