

FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



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Website: www.firststjohns.com

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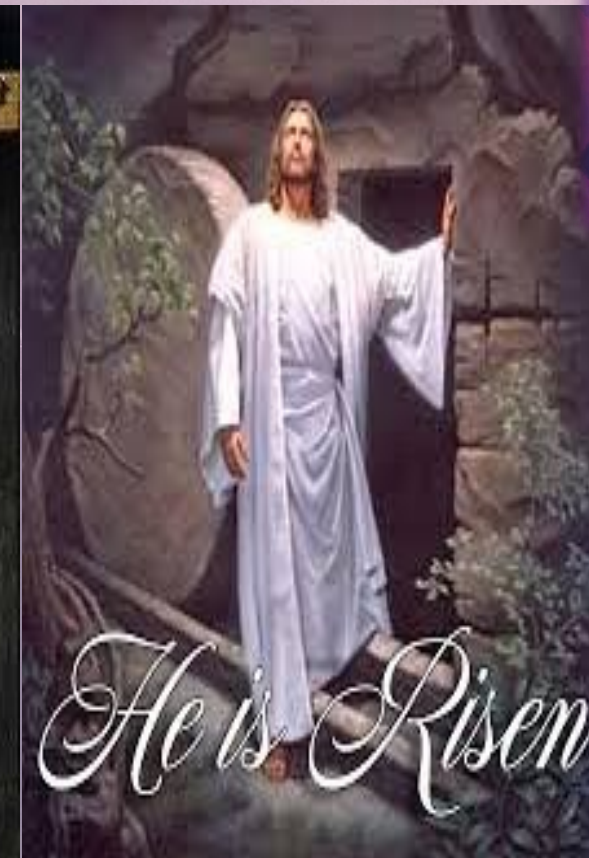
THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO

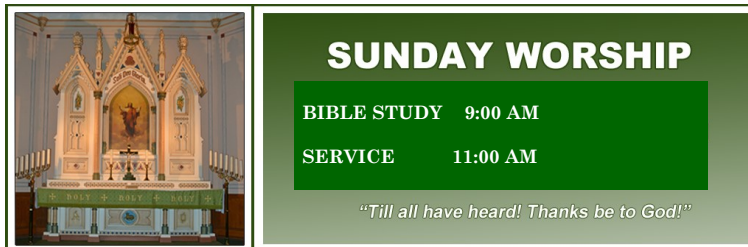
PARISH VISITOR
FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

VOL 55-ISSUE 4

Website: www.firststjohns.org

APRIL 2023





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)

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

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

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, 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.



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



Taking Flight...on Butterfly Wings



but be transformed by the renewing of your mind...Romans 12: 2

Let's connect for fellowship... and transform the path of our Pen Mar Zone LWML

Saturday, April 22, 2023. 9am – 12pm followed by lunch
Advent Lutheran Church 2230 Rock Spring Rd. Forest Hill, MD
Registration of \$5.00 per person (includes luncheon)

Please reply by 4/15/23 to Verna Liescheidt 410-836-9391 OR freedom38@verizon.net.

Please bring with you:

MITE offerings for our district mission grants &

A butterfly item that represents peace, joy, creativity, or reflection to you.

A BETTER WAY

The most common question about stewardship is not *whether* a Christian should give to their church. Of course Christians should give to their church. Everyone knows this. Rather, the question asked most is, "How much should I give?" But this question really means, "Should Christians give a tenth of their income to their local congregation?"

Here are some common reasons against tithing. Some say tithing isn't necessary because it isn't expressly commanded in the New Testament. There is no "Thus saith the Lord," or "should" concerning tithing. Others say that Christians give to their congregation in ways much broader than money. They give of their time and their talents, and these together with treasures (money) add up to more than a tithe. Still others say that they give of their treasures to other things besides their congregation, and they want to support those things alongside their church. And then there are those who think Christians shouldn't tithe because of some fear. They are afraid that if they tithe, their gift will be misused, or that after tithing, there won't be enough left over to get the things that they use, want or need.

Here are some reasons why Christians *should* tithe. Even though the New Testament doesn't specifically command Christians to tithe, the Old Testament people were commanded to. And on top of this, St. Paul often describes giving a regular and generous proportion of the first fruits of one's income — terms similar to a tithe (2 Cor. 8:7-23; 2 Cor. 9:2-7).


But here's another way to think about it. What was the point of the tithe in the Old Testament? Where did it go? This tithe was intended to support the ministry of the Levites. They were not given any land because they had no time to farm; their full-time job was the ministry. What does it say in the New Testament? "The Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14). This is the verse that Luther used in the Small Catechism's Table of Duties to explain what Christians owe to the support of the ministry.

It seems clear from both the Old and the New Testaments that the tithe is the goal of Christians in their giving. But what if we're not there yet? How should we handle this? What are we to do?

Let's answer this by asking a different question. What would you say to your adult children who only attended church quarterly or once a month? After all, there is no passage in the New Testament that requires Christians to go to church weekly. Hebrews 10:25 is the closest verse we have, and it states simply that Christians should not neglect gathering together. And even though there is no passage that commands Christians to gather weekly, that is the implicit expectation throughout the Old and New Testaments.

So, what would you say to that son or daughter? The conversation might go something like this. I'm glad you're still going to church. It is a wonderful blessing to hear God's promises of forgiveness, life and salvation, and to receive His gifts in Word and Sacrament. But you can do better, and it will only be a blessing to you. There is a better way, and I'd really like you to try to attain it.

We should approach the topic of tithing with a similar conversation. The tithe is not specifically commanded in the New Testament, but it sure seems like the implicit expectation of both the Old and New Testaments. So, we're ecstatic that you're giving, and that you're giving in all these various ways — time, talents and treasures. But there is a better way. And that will only be a blessing to you, just as the Word of God — Old and New Testament alike — promises. Can you try increasing your gifts over the coming weeks, months and years? Can you put your trust in the God who sent His Son to take away your sin and give you everlasting life? And if He did this for you, if He did not spare His only Son, how will He not give you all things? He will not disappoint.

FIRST RESPONDERS

**2nd quarter Alms
Donations will benefit
First Responders of
York, PA**

Join Us Sunday Morning
at 11:00 A.M.
for
SERVICE & WORSHIP



Bible Study



9:00 AM

**APRIL 2023
PARISH VISITOR**

MAY 2023 DEADLINE

Articles Due **Friday, April 21st**
Send Date **Thursday, April 27th**



MEETINGS IN APRIL

Worship Committee
Church Council –

To be announced
Tuesday, April 18th at 6:00 pm



UPCOMING APRIL SERVICES

- April 2nd- Communion (Palm Sunday).**
- April 9th- Communion (Resurrection Sunday / Easter).**
- April 16th-Communion (2nd Sunday of Easter).**
- April 23rd-Non-Communion (3rd Sunday of Easter).**
- April 30th-Non-Communion (4th Sunday of Easter).**



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

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

CHURCH OFFICE
Phone Number 717-843-8597

APRIL 2023

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
2 Palm Sunday C / Red	3 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	4	5 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	6 Maundy Thursday Service- 7:00 PM	7 Good Friday Service 7:00 PM	8
9 Easter Sunday (Resurrection Day) C / White	10 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	11	12 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	13	14	15
16 2nd Sunday of Easter German Easter Service 4:00 PM C / White	17 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	18 CHURCH COUNCIL MTG. 6:00 PM	19 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	20	21	22
23 3rd Sunday of Easter NC / White	24 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	25	26 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	27	28	29
30 4th Sunday of Easter NC / White		LAY READER Jane Abendschoen	USHERS Dave Stambaugh Bill Lupp	ALTAR GUILD Carla Allison		



Prayer For Spiritual Growth In New Month

Dear Lord in heaven,
Help me grow in your faith. Let my spiritual life be strengthened always. Be a light unto my path. Do not let the darkness overcome me. Let me withstand any hardship that comes on me. Let my days be filled with testimony. Let me strive to do your work each day. Let me never sway from the path and purpose you have prepared for me. Use me as your instrument and let me not live for myself but for you.

Amen

THE GRACEFUL CHAPTER

Music & Worship Notes



It is hard to believe that lent is over and we are now in the season of Easter. We can see the earth coming alive again after the bleakness of winter. As we see the leaves and flowers emerging from their buds, we are reminded of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ as He came forth from the tomb. He is Risen! He is Risen, Indeed! Salvation has been won for us. Satan no longer has dominion over us because of our faith in our Risen Lord.

Many thanks to the choir for all their hard work in preparing and leading us in worship on Good Friday and Easter Sunday. A big thank you goes to Bruce Tittel for playing his trumpet for the Easter services at both St. Paul's and First St. John's.

Thanks are also due to the groups and families who provided the food for the Lenten suppers: the Choir; LWML; Jane Abendschoen; the Men's group; and the Rodriguez family. You helped to feed our bodies while the pastors fed our souls!

I want to thank the Tittel family for providing the brass music for the annual German Easter Service. Thanks also go to Mr. Richard Broomfield for preaching and leading the service.

**Ken Sanders,
MINISTER OF MUSIC**



Lois Hollinger, Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, Beverly Card, Ding Wang, Zihong (Andy) Su.



Bonnie Abendschoen
138 Crown Pointe Drive
York, PA 17402

Kim Thompson
30 South Beaver Street
York, PA 17401

Dawn Frey
382 West North Street
York, PA 17401

Becky Lupp
1180 Ruxton Rd.
York, PA 17403

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.

GERMAN EASTER WORSHIP

German Easter Worship

Sunday, April 16, 4:00 P.M.

Light refreshments with a German theme will follow the service.





PRAYERS

Christians especially in the Middle East- persecuted
 Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving
 Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home
 Joyce Devan-Health issues
 Kim Thompson-Health issues
 Susan vanDyk-Baum
 Ed Hanes (Nancy Hildebrand's brother)-Health issues
 Jeanne Noll-Health issue
 Ed Abendschoen-Health issues
 Nancy Hildebrand-Health Issues
 Jon Van Sliedrecht-Health issue
 Bonnie Abendschoen-Health issues
 David-Health issues (friend of Ed & Bonnie Abendschoen)
 Karen Hildebrand-Health issues
 Fran Shoff-Health issues
 Tom Gibson-Health issues
 Tammy Cahoon-Health issues
 Lois Stambaugh-Health issues
 The Christian Church in Northern Nigeria
 Bonita Bollinger-Undergoing treatment for breast cancer
 Mark Parent-Husband of Candy Parent (Bill Lupp's niece)-
 Heart transplant
 Anna vanDyk-Health issue
 Vicar Geoff Abendschoen-Health issue
 Karl vanDyk-Health issue
 Lois Stambaugh-Health issue
 Dave Stambaugh-Health issue
 Candy Parent-In hospital with cancer (Bill Lupp's niece)

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen
 Joyce Devan
 Dawn Frey
 Kim Thompson
 Becky Lupp

LEADERS

Vicar Geoff Abendschoen, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Seifferlein, Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack, District President Bill Harmon

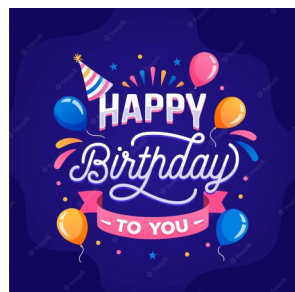
PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For all of God's Gifts

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



11th - Carlos Beck
21st - Dawn Frey
27th - Amy Stambaugh



Early May Birthdays

1st - Daniel Stambaugh

PRAYER LIST (cont.)

SPIRITUAL NEEDS

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



MILITARY



POLICE

Jonathan




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.



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

