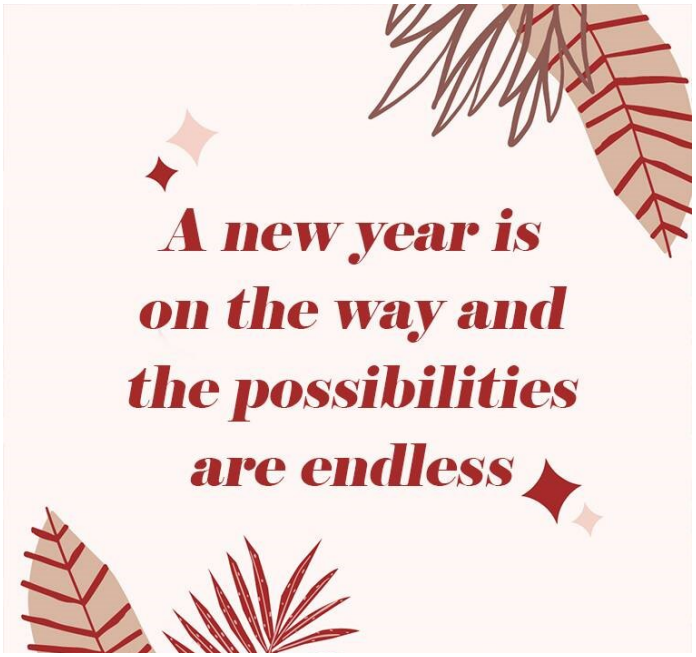
ST. JOHN'S
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
100 E Water St
Abbottstown, PA 17301
717-259-0796

PLACE
STAMP
HERE



EAGLE'S WINGS NEWSLETTER

ST. JOHN'S
EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
717-259-0796
Pastor Shawn M. Berkebile
atownpastor@comcast.net

Volume 32, Number 1 JANUARY, 2021

MISSION STATEMENT

We are a community of Christians who, through God's Word and Sacraments, are enabled by the Holy Spirit to grow and serve Christ at home and in the world.

SUNDAY SCHEDULE

Sunday School 9:00am
Worship via YouTube 10:00am
Facebook & Zoom Online Worship 11:00am

Inside this issue

Pastor's Reflection ……..2
Worship Information……..3
St. John's Happenings……..3-4
Christian Education……..5
Donations Needed……..6
Blood Drive……7
Treasurer's Report……..8
Prayer Concerns/Birthdays……. .9

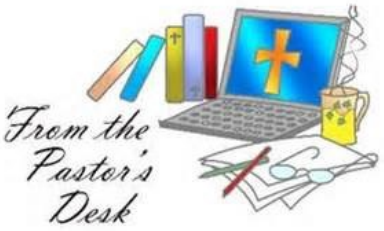
Special points of interest:

Blood Drive, Pg. 7
Prayer Concerns/Birthdays, Pg. 9

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor's Reflection….Hopeful for the new year!

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,



Believe it or not, I am very hopeful as we turn the calendar to 2021. My hope is not based on thinking that a new year will fix everything or on my ability to predict future events. My hope comes from the relationship God has made with me and strengthened through Jesus Christ. With faith and trust I feel hopeful for this coming year.

The year of 2020 has been unique in that we have understood that all have been impacted by the pandemic. All of us have known a higher degree of stress as we have been forced to face new circumstances which are beyond our control. Many in our community are struggling with economic insecurity. Many of us have experienced challenges that have raised our anxiety to the max. All of us know that in doing what is right, like masking up and limiting social gatherings, that a consequence is a more isolated life. We have all suffered. Many people of St. John's have expressed how they miss the singing of the gathered Church, the spiritual nourishment of Holy Communion in community, and the joy of being present for one another. Yet we have found ways to continue to be the Church and I am one to believe that our online platform has strengthen our community well beyond this pandemic. And the separation is not permanent, we will be back together soon enough, and I will be the first to announce that opportunity.

Some new traditions have been created; we have gathered outdoors when the weather is favorable. We created online content for our congregation to grow spiritually. And our mission and ministry has remained strong. We continue to help people with food insecurity. Laundry Love continues to function when other churches have taken a break. Everyone is imagining new ways to do what is essential. I am a very proud pastor because of the way in which we have come together and recognized that if we can get past these challenges there is truly no limit to what we can do together.

I trust that God is working through us by the power of the Holy Spirit. That makes all the difference in the world as we face these days. We suffer, we endure, a new level of integrity, courage, honesty, unity, and fortitude emerges, and then there is hope! God is with us supplying an abundance of grace, and hope becomes real! May all that God supplies bring you joy and hope this Christmas season and New Year! We are in this together…Thanks be to God!

Grace and peace,

Pastor Shawn

ST. JOHN'S HAPPENINGS

Sunday Morning Schedule

9:00am- Virtual Sunday School (schedule provided and available online)

10:00am – Online Worship on YouTube @ https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCLYusK7PV28KOqSVH6xpbFA

11:00am – Online Worship – Zoom and Facebook Live

Zoom: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9078365134?pwd=OEE2K002VkY4b0JCeWx5T2U3YmRRQT09

Meeting ID: 907 836 5134

Passcode: 407818

Facebook Live - https://www.facebook.com/St.JohnsAbbottstown/live

Join us for Bible Study on Wednesday!

I want to take a few minutes and invite you to Bible Study. I have personally grown because of the group and I think those that join us have experience growth as well. With all the things happen in the world around us, sometimes we just need to take break and be encouraged to pray and let scripture guide us. I hope you may consider joining us every Wednesday at 10:00am. Click on this link to learn about what texts will be discussed https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/downloads/YearA_2019-2020.pdf. The Zoom link and information is below. Meeting Link with Password: https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9078365134?pwd=OEE2K002VkY4b0JCeWx5T2U3YmRRQT09
Meeting ID: 907 836 5134; Password: 407818
To call in use +1 929 205 6099. Use the Meeting ID and Password when prompted.

In Person Worship - Update

The Covid-19 Taskforce and our Church Council will continue to work together to share information with the congregation about in-person worship at St. John's. The Sanctuary is scheduled to be painted in January and February and this will factor into our decision. Please go to the church website for the most updated information or contact the church office during office hours.

Thank you for your support and generosity

This Christmas we celebrated the gift of salvation and life we have in Jesus Christ! Thank you for your support of St. John's Lutheran Church's mission and ministries which impact hundreds of lives! We made it through a difficult financial year because of the dedication and support of members like you. Thank you for your prayers, your engagement online in worship and ZOOM meetings, your care for each other, and all the little things you do that continue to make our church active and alive!

ST. JOHN'S HAPPENINGS, cont'd

Eagle Scout Project – Parlor Renovation

In the coming weeks Spencer Mefford of Troup 067 will be starting his Eagle Scout Project by helping us with renovations in the church parlor. Spencer will be removing the carpet and spending most of his time refinishing the hardwood floors. We are excited to partner with Spencer for this project.

12 E Water demolishing work

The Cemetery Board is working with H&H of Spring Grove to demolish the house at 12 E Water Street. This project is scheduled to take place in January or early February at the latest. This decision was agreed upon by the congregation at the 2019 congregational meeting. The plot of land will be turned into grass and the Cemetery Board will resume responsibility for maintenance.

HOSPITAL ADMITTANCE

If you or a loved one is admitted to the Hospital, please be sure to identify St. John's, in Abbottstown, as your congregation. According to HIPAA regulations, if you provide this information to the Hospital, they will notify us of your admittance. Thank You!

ALTAR FLOWERS

We will, once again, be accepting sponsors for our Altar Flowers. Please see sign-up sheet in the Fellowship Hall or call the office at 717-259-0796 to sponsor your flowers today! Thank you!

ARE YOU A CUSTOMER OF *AERO ENERGY?*

We've received several checks from Aero Energy. Thank you to all who are participating! Please contact Donna in the office for more information on how **you can help donate to St. John's just by making your propane/oil payment.**

2021 OFFERING ENVELOPES ARE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP IN THE HALLWAY—FEEL FREE TO TAKE FOR ANYONE WHO IS NOT ABLE TO PICK THEIRS UP AS WELL

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION

St. John's January Schedule

Hello St. John families,
Happy 2021! Thank you so much for your participation in our Christian Education offerings this fall and your support as we continue to figure out what is working well and what tweaks are needed during this unusual year! Moving forward, we're going to offer Sunday School for our kindergarteners through fifth graders. I've very much enjoyed getting to spend time with our youth on Zoom on Sunday mornings so far this school year! Its been neat to try to figure out creative ways for us to be together when we still cannot physically gather. I hope you're finding as much joy in this time as I am. Here is the information for connecting to Sunday School through Zoom along with a schedule for January:

January 3rd 2021 9AM Zoom Sunday School

January 10th 2021 9AM Zoom Sunday School

January 17th 2021 9AM Zoom Sunday School

January 24th 2021 9AM Zoom Sunday School

January 31st 2021 9AM Zoom Sunday School

This link can be used for all Pre-K through Grade 5 for January
https://zoom.us/j/8320475880?pwd=blVHRy9MNzVXZHE0T3ZBdkRFYUppZz09
Meeting ID: 832 047 5880
Passcode: 1234

The Sanctuary is getting painted

Starting in January the sanctuary will be painted wall to ceiling. This project is being funded through the window renovation project. This project is schedule to take four to six weeks and will limit our ability to use the sanctuary because of pews needing to be moved and scaffolding set up. We will be sharing the updates and information online and we will do our best to post pictures of the progress.

DONATIONS NEEDED

LAUNDRY LOVE—Tuesday, January 5th

St. John's has joined the movement called Laundry Love. On the first Tuesday of the month we offer free laundry to those with financial need at The Sudz laundry mat at the Kennie's Shopping Plaza in Spring Grove. This month we will offer free laundry on **Tuesday, January 5 at 6:00pm.** Watch the video on our website to learn more. Contact the office if you are interested in joining our team.

ABBOTTSTOWN/EAST BERLIN FOOD PANTRY

On December 2nd, 38 families were served at the East Berlin Pantry; which included a total of 78 individuals and on December 3rd, 19 families were served at the Abbottstown Pantry, which included a total of 50 individuals.

Just a reminder that the mobile food pantries for East Berlin and Abbottstown will again be a curbside pickup of a box of food. East Berlin hours will be 3pm—5pm on January 6th and Abbottstown from 3pm –4pm on January 7th. We will only need 8 volunteers or less for each location.

RUTH'S HARVEST

Ruth's Harvest is a Backpack Ministry in our community. Donations need to be individual servings and individually wrapped. St. John's Lutheran Church collects food for Bermudian Springs School District. Please remember to purchase peanut-free products.

Donations should be dropped into appropriately marked bins on the stage of the Fellowship Hall.

SPECIAL NEEDS

RUTH'S HARVEST ERMUDIAN SPRINGS

PUDDING CUPS, GOLDFISH CRACKERS & CHEF BOYARDEE SINGLE SERVE BEEFARONI AND LASAGNA CUPS

Packing January 22 @ 1:30PM

St. John's Lutheran Church

Community Blood Drive

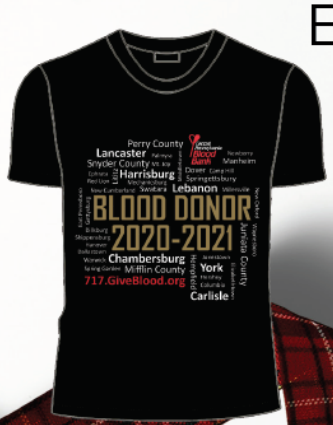
100 East Water Street, Abbottstown, PA 17301
Fellowship Hall

Thursday, January 21st
12:00pm - 5:00pm

- We strongly suggest you schedule an appointment to donate blood. Appointments help us improve your donation experience.
- Walk-Ins are welcome; however, donors with appointments will be taken first and this may result in a significant wait time.
- **Masks are required**.
  If you aren't wearing a mask, we will provide one for you.

Everyone at this drive may choose to receive a **FREE** Covid-19 Antibody test with each successful blood donation.

Everyone giving at this challenging time will receive a **FREE** Blood Donor t-shirt!



CALL TO DONATE: 1-800-771-0059
A form of ID is REQUIRED to donate • 717giveblood.org

If you aren't able to make it to the Blood Drive, we invite you to visit the Blood Donor Center.

Apple Hill Donor Center - WellSpan, York

Apple Hill Medical Center
25 Monument Road, Suite 198, York, 17403

WellSpan Blood Donor Services

Please call 717-741-8307 Monday through Friday to schedule an appointment.

Central Pennsylvania Blood Bank

TREASURER'S REPORT

St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church
Actual vs Budget - Summary
November 2020

	Nov 20	Budget	Jan - Nov 20	YTD Budget	Annual Budget
Income	20,463.23	18,368.66	191,534.48	202,055.35	220,424.00
Expense					
BENEVOLENCE EXPENSES NON SYNOD	220.00	166.66	1,257.25	1,833.34	2,000.00
BENEVOLENCE EXPENSES THRU SYNOD	1,166.67	1,250.00	13,833.37	13,750.00	15,000.00
PASTORAL MINISTRY	7,060.04	7,315.17	79,156.28	80,466.83	87,782.00
ADMINISTRATION	3,415.36	2,905.58	32,402.00	31,961.42	34,867.00
WORSHIP AND MUSIC	0.00	1,283.33	6,861.57	14,116.67	15,400.00
CHRISTIAN EDUCATION	402.50	933.33	8,059.62	10,266.67	11,200.00
CHURCH COMMITTEES	0.00	166.67	1,085.88	1,833.36	2,000.00
PROPERTY	1,822.48	4,347.92	40,378.37	47,827.06	52,175.00
Total Expense	14,087.05	18,368.66	183,034.34	202,055.35	220,424.00
Overage (Shortfall) to meet current expenses	6,376.18	0.00	8,500.14	0.00	0.00

OFFERING: MONTHLY SPECIAL DESIGNATION - During the month of **JANUARY,** the **special designation** on your envelope will go to **Touch of Grace.** It is our hope that gifts designated to the Special Designation in **January** go above and beyond someone's regular giving to the general fund.

ONLINE GIVING AT ST. JOHN'S - Don't carry cash or checks? Still want to give to the ministry and mission of the church? Click on the QR Code and help us grow in our giving by making an online gift. You will have the option to make a one time donation or a recurring donation. This website is easy, quick and very secure. Thank you for your support!

Kaden Decker	January 1	Lisa Neiderer	January 9	Juline Grim	January 23
Jeanne Hoke	January 4	James Hoff	January 12	Maclay Mathias	January 24
Bill Haverstick	January 4	*Cynthia Linebaugh	January 14	Michael Gruver	January 25
Angela Schuchart	January 4	Hunter Weaver	January 14	Matthew Tyson	January 28
Jeff Zinn	January 6	Ruthetta Baker	January 20	Craig Schuchart	January 29
Raymond Swope	January 7	Amy Colgan	January 21	Marlin Baker	January 31
Tiffany Carbaugh	January 8	Arlene Moul	January 22		
Kevin Moul	January 9	Colby Wildasin	January 22		

*Denotes Homebound Member

REMEMBERING IN PRAYER:

Earl Altland, Deb Keeney, Stacey Riggs, Kevin Shearer, Shirley Crawford, Thomas Niedererr, Joe Heltzer, Amy Ogurcak, Robin Talbott, Janet Heflin, Betty Mauk, Greg Adams, Brenda Shue, Mike Botterbush (brother of Eunice Mentzer), Dorothy Ann Lightner (sister of Jared Tyson), Virginia Houpt (sister of Mary Fogle), Shirley Drummond (sister of Joan & Gary Slonaker), Hayley Thompson (granddaughter of Mary Fogle), Larry Brown, Dolly Hamm (Nancy Emig's sister), Annie Sharrer, Daylin Bennet, Adam Jones, Frank George, the family of Charlene Atha, David Trent, Carmen Miranda, Estella Goodall, Lois Martoranna, Josiah Snyder, John Jeffcoat, Mary Lawrence, Lisa Hart, Carl & Donna Gentel, Cheri Yost, Ryan Laughman, Nancy Zavilla, Donald Ruth, Randy Ruth, Craig Miller, Lisa Berwager, Renee Noble, Myra Miller, Leslie Passalacqun, Jim Leonard, Cindy Linebaugh, Jack McCauslin, Scarlet (Great-Granddaughter of Bonnie Staub) and Nicole Valentine and her unborn child, Dakoda, Jared & Peggy Tyson, Dot Bonebrake, Janet Heflin, Betty Mauk, Ruth, Linebaugh, Betty Sharrer.

HOMEBOUND:

Erma Becker, Gloria Breighner, Suzanne George, Dorothy Hoffheins, Miriam Huff, Cindy Linebaugh, Merle Linebaugh and Darlene Rodgers.

We wish to express our heartfelt thank you to the members of St John's for your cards, phone calls, and prayers for our recovery. We are so thankful to belong to this caring congregation. Although we have away to go, we have both made good progress toward a very good recovery. Thank you again for keeping us in your thoughts and prayers. Peggy and Jared Tyson