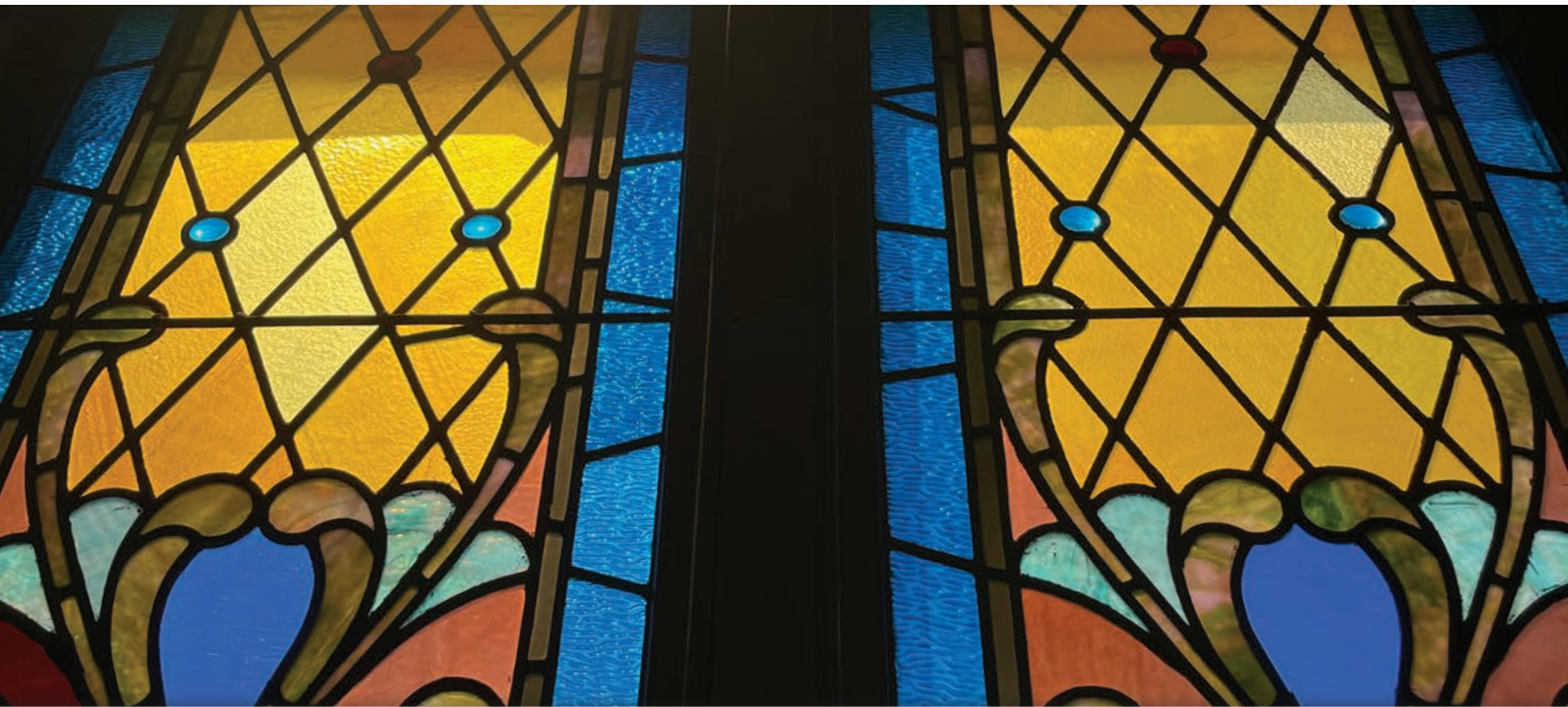


MAY 2025

THE ST. JOHN **NEWS**



SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

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FAIRFIELD, PA 17320

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SUNDAY WORSHIP
SERVICE | 9AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL
SEPT-MAY | 10:15AM

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
WED 9:30AM

KIDS CLUB
SEPT-MAY | THURS 3:45-5PM

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Hard to believe how quickly the weeks pass. I was last talking to you about Lent, and now we've already gone through Holy Week and Easter Day, well into the Easter season and now barreling toward Pentecost.

I always love coming to the church on Easter Sunday; seeing the transformation of the altar and the addition of the beautiful cross. It's a feeling of awe as the church bustles full of attendees in their Easter best.

I hope you all had wonderful Easter celebrations with your families and loved ones. I pray you continue to revel in the celebration and never forget the sacrifices of our Lord and Savior.

Christ is Risen!


Becky Robinson

FROM THE PASTOR



"A Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none.

A Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all."

The quotation above is the two part thesis of Martin Luther's writing "The Freedom of a Christian". At first glance these two statements seem to contradict each other. The first statement is quite appealing since it may be taken to imply personal power, authority and privilege. If that was what being a Christian, of being a disciple of Christ was all about our buildings would be bulging at the seams! There is a danger in letting that first statement stand on its own. Taken on its own we may be tempted to claim power over people, to say it's this way or the highway, to gather those who agree with us while pushing others away. But Luther did not let the first statement stand on its own, he balanced it beautifully with the second statement that brings things into proper perspective.

The second statement broadens the horizon, brings humility and an emphasis on service to all. You have not been set free for your own purposes but rather for the benefit of your neighbor. The message of the

two statements taken together is that through Christ we are people who live free from the threats of sin, death and the devil. We live knowing that nothing and no one can ever separate us from the love of God and therefore we are subject to nobody other than God. You have been set free! The second statement reminds us that we have been set free so we can love and serve our neighbors, all of our neighbors.

We often hear that we live as Easter people. What does that mean? Luther wanted you to know that Easter people are people who trust the message of Easter. Who know that Jesus Christ died and was raised for you and for all people. Our lives are motivated by that promise. We have great peace because of that promise. Easter people see the people around them, all of the people around them, as people who are also loved by God and have received the same Easter promise as they have. You will never look into the eyes of someone that God does not love!

As disciples of Christ who wish to make Christ known in this community let's take the message of Luther's two part thesis of "The Freedom of a Christian" seriously. Let it shape how you live in and with the people in our community. Do they feel Christ's love through you? Do they feel the freedom of a Christian in your relationships? Peace to you as you live as a perfectly free disciple of Christ.

Peace,
Pastor Wayne Gallipo

GETTING TO KNOW THE CHURCH COUNCIL; MIKE GAMER



Hello there! My name is Mike Gamer, I have attended St. John for about 3 years now and I have been a member for a little over one year. I am one of the new members on the church council. I

am very excited to be on the council and my hope is that we will be able to grow and bring people back to church. My hope is also for the community to know that St. John Lutheran Church is a place where everyone knows that all are welcome! I would also like to thank Pastor Wayne for doing an outstanding job as our new interim pastor!

I am very interested in Lutheranism and I have enjoyed reading Lutheran books, watching Lutheran historical videos on YouTube and listening to my favorite

Lutheran rapper, Flame! Fun fact, I am also a hip-hop head!

I have two daughters, Olivia (16) and Addy (12). They are very talented and very bright kids. I love them very much! I also attend service on Sundays with my father, Roy Gamer, who has been a member at St. John for quite some time now. I am from Frederick, Maryland. I work for a small software company in Frederick as well, although I work from home most days. As many of you know, Dad and I are very big sports fans! I am a huge fan of the Baltimore Orioles, The Washington Commanders and the Washington Wizards. I enjoy taking the kids to see the Orioles each summer. I am honored to have been asked to join the church council and I look forward to what is to come in the future at St. John Lutheran Church! May the Peace of God be with you!

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

Martz Plumbing from Waynesboro was hired and have now replaced the ac units. The Cash Day contributions provided \$7,090.00 toward this expense. A very gracious thank you to all who contributed during Cash Day.

CLOTHING FOR UKRAINE



In April, a clothing drive was held for the people of Ukraine. The amount of clothes donated was astounding. Thank you so much to all those who donated! The clothes will be gathered along with other local organizations who have also had collections. If you have any specific questions, please see Dave Thomas.

WOMEN OF ST. JOHN

At our last meeting the Women's group voted on donating \$1,000.00 to Cash Day for the air conditioning. This contribution comes from the profits of activities the Women of St. John had previously held.

We continue to discuss and plan for the upcoming Craft/Bake and Soup sale on November 8th. The craft ideas are flowing!

A big thank you to all that attended our wonderfully successfully Easter breakfast celebration. We made breakfast for 87 people!! Our church family is growing!



*Come join the fellowship and support our ministry to church and community.
We meet monthly, on the 1st Tuesday at 10:00AM.
For more information, contact Nancy Miller or Linda Sanders.*

FROM THE DESK OF THE MUSIC DIRECTOR



Thank you to all of our musicians who continually share their talents during worship services. A special thank you to the Easter Choir, Hand Bells and Children's Choir for their beautiful music Easter morning!

Some general information for children's choir, bells & WOV; the WOV and Hand Bells will continue meeting through May, since Music Sunday is June 1st. The children's choir will sing one final time, on May 18, before going on break for the summer.



SUMMER MUSIC

Summer is fast approaching and our choirs take a much needed break. If you know of anyone who might want to share their music talents with us Sunday mornings, please let me know.

Carol Garman

Upcoming dates to remember:

May 4: Of The Lands and Seasons folk liturgy | June 1: Music Sunday
June 8: Pentecost | June 15: Holy Trinity

With One Voice and Hand Bell Choir Meets Wednesday evenings—singers at 6:45 and ringers at 7:30. New members are always welcome. WOV sings twice a month for worship services as schedules allow and bells ring for worship services every 4-6 weeks as schedules allow.

Children's Choir Children's choir practices during Sunday School & Kids Club and sing for worship once a month.

For more information, contact Carol Garman at 717-476-0923.

**Choirs will be going on summer break starting in June.*

FAMILY MINISTRIES

We invited older youth (since our younger youth get the egg hunt on Easter Sunday) for an evening of fun activities and then an Easter Egg hunt *in the dark!* Kids use flashlights to find the eggs that have been hidden throughout the sanctuary. It was an evening of good fun and comradery!

Family Ministries will be holding a “Donuts with Dad” following the service on Sunday, June 15th to celebrate Father’s Day. There will be a sign up sheet soon, please keep an eye out for it!

Family Ministries is also planning on putting up a Prayer Walk. We hope that you will take time for prayer in a different way. For the month of June we will have a prayer hunt with stations set up throughout the church and outside. Please take some time to walk through reflect with these engaging stations.





YOUTH MINISTRIES: SUNDAY SCHOOL & KIDS CLUB

Kids Club had a busy last couple weeks. We've done all sorts of fun things from crafts to games to glow in the dark egg hunts to baking cookies (for a contribution to the cafe after service) to making t-shirts. The last Kids Club for this season was May 1st. Thank you families and helpers for all of your support!

The last day of children and youth Sunday school for this school year is May 18th. Thank you to teachers, parents and families for your participation!

Vacation Bible Fun week will be June 9-13th from 6-8PM. Any children preschool through 5th grade are welcome to join us for bible stories, crafts, singing, games and refreshments. Youth grades 6 and above are welcome to come help! Adult volunteers are needed as well. Watch the bulletin for more details. If you're interested in helping or looking for more information, contact Carol Garman or Stacey Haynes.





Children's Sunday School Any children preschool-12th grade are welcome to join us Sunday mornings from 10:15-11:15AM for bible stories, crafts, games, snack and musical activities. Friends are welcome, too!

For more information, contact Carol Garman at 717-476-0923 or Stacey Haynes at 717-398-7877.

Kids Club Any children K-4th grade are welcome to join us Thursdays from 3:45-5PM for bible stories, crafts, games, snack and musical activities. Older children are welcome to join as helpers. Friends and homeschoolers are welcome, too!

Transportation is available from Fairfield Elementary.

NO Kids Club if Fairfield Area School is canceled or there is an early dismissal.

Aluminum Cans for Kids Club Thank you to anyone who is bringing in their aluminum cans. Proceeds go towards supplies for Kids Club. Collection box can be found in Fellowship Hall.

For more information, contact Carol Garman at 717-476-0923.

COMMUNITY EVENTS

Please take a look at some other events happening in the church and within our community.

Every day they continued to meet together in the temple courts. They broke bread in their homes and ate together with glad and sincere hearts, praising God and enjoying the favor of all the people. And the Lord added to their number daily those who were being saved. -Acts 2:46-47 NIV

INTERESTED IN SUMMER CAMP? THERE'S STILL TIME AND ST. JOHN MAY BE ABLE TO HELP WITH THE COST!

There is still time if you are looking to register your child in summer camp at Camp Nawakwa or Kirchenwald, the church has some funds to help aid the expense for families. Please complete their [online registration form](#) or their [pdf form](#) and make a copy to give to a council member. The treasurer will review and indicate how much the church can help aid in the camp expense.

If you are not interested in a summer camp, but are looking for other things to do or ways to help out, check out their website: <https://www.lutherancamping.org/upcoming-events/>



ST. JOHN ANNUAL YARD SALE

Start cleaning out those closets!

Our annual yard sale will be Friday June 20th and Saturday June 21st, with setup on Thursday June 19th. No adult clothing please. Items should be gently used & in working condition. Watch bulletin for drop off details. For more information, contact Carol Garman or Barb Booz.

BRING A FRIEND TO SOCCER

The local soccer club (Fairfield Youth Soccer Club) is having a 'bring a friend to soccer' week, the week of May 5. If you have a kid or know a kid that might like soccer but has been afraid to give it a go, this is the perfect time for them to give it a try! Many of our church youth play soccer, feel free to inquire with any of their parents!



ADDITIONAL NOTES

+ Over the summer Stacey and Becky will be working on cleaning up preschool supplies and some possible rearranging of spaces. We know many of our permanent groups are needing some organized spaces. If you are the "head" of one of the groups ie Women of St. John, Hillside, etc. please see Becky about things your group is looking for. Our goal is to get a feel for what would help each group access the things they need with ease.

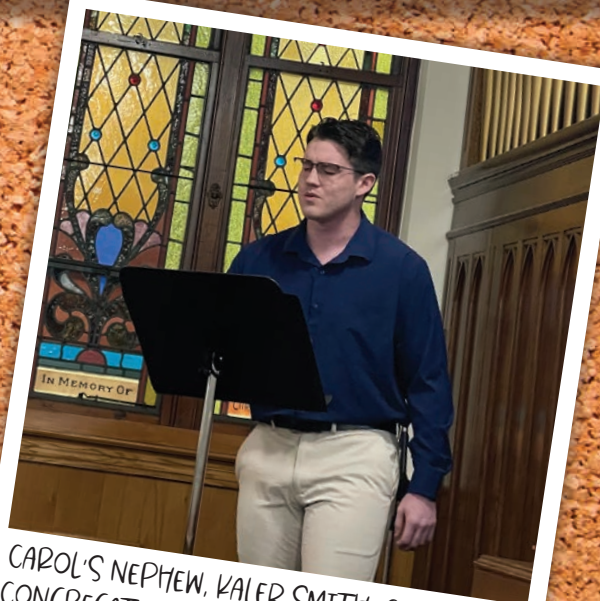
We are also looking into creating a "teen hangout" space that Stacey can use for her older youth Sunday school kids, as well as perhaps for some after school tutoring or maybe even a section of Kids Club for older youth.

THANK YOUs

There are always *many* things to be thankful for. Here are some special shoutouts from great members to other great members.

- + We are always extremely thankful to our choirs and musicians, but an extra shout out goes to the choirs (and the men who join for the holidays!) and musicians for their extra efforts during the Easter season.
- + Thank you to the guest musicians who share their talents with us.
- + Thank you to the group who decorated the church for Easter.

Do you have a special thank you? Let Becky know! Or put a note in the "Newsletter" mailbox in the office.



CAROL'S NEPHEW, KALEB SMITH, GRACED THE CONGREGATION WITH HIS SINGING TALENTS

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

PAGE | Saint John Lutheran Church

GROUP FOR MEMBERS | St. John Lutheran Church Fairfield, PA

UPCOMING EVENTS

MAY
4

Mother's Day Dinner
Social Hall
5:00PM

MAY
6

Women of St. John
Social Hall
10:00AM

MAY
12

Council Meeting
Social Hall
6:30PM

JUN
15

Donuts with Dads
Social Hall
10:15AM

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS

(If you see them, wish them Happy Birthday!)

MAY 4 HOLLY JOYNER

MAY 5 MARGIE HARTZELL

MAY 8 LINN WICHOWSKI

MAY 14 FRANCES BASSETT

MAY 16 DAVE KUMP

MAY 17 MAKENZIE TAYLOR

MAY 19 SANDY KUMP

MAY 21 JOANNE MUSSELMAN

MAY 22 CARTER JOYNER

MAY 25 MIKE GAMER

MAY 28 KELLI SZAROWSKI

MAY 29 ANDREA HAYNES



CHURCH STAFF

INT. PASTOR | PASTOR WAYNE GALLIPO

**ORGANIST/MUSIC DIRECTOR/CHILDREN PROGRAMS
DIRECTOR** | CAROL GARMAN

OFFICE ADMINISTRATOR | KEELY GROFT

SEXTON | PAULA SEBOLD

TREASURER | SANDY KUMP

COUNCIL MEMBERS

PRESIDENT | JOSH HAYNES

VICE PRESIDENT | BRET ROBINSON

SECRETARY | CATHY CONN

FRANCIS BASSETT

BARB BOOZ

CHRIS COOL

MIKE GAMER

KEVAN TAYLOR

DAVE THOMAS