

AUGUST 2025

THE ST. JOHN NEWS



SAINT JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

13 E. MAIN STREET
FAIRFIELD, PA 17320

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SUNDAY WORSHIP
SERVICE | 9AM

SUNDAY SCHOOL
SEPT-MAY | 10:15AM

ADULT BIBLE STUDY
SEPT-MAY | WED 9:30AM

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

MESSAGE FROM THE EDITOR

Just like that, July has come and gone and August is upon us. The people of Saint John seem to keep the place bustling all summer long; there's always something going on — Family Ministry events, meals getting prepped for Hillside, after-service fun for youth, various committee meetings and now we're even starting to prep for Pippinfest!

I am so thankful for the church family here at Saint John and I enjoy bringing my family to as many church events as I can; I know my family loves coming to them too. I hope that all of you feel the same way and continue to create events and attend events others are holding. It definitely takes both kinds to keep the church running and bustling and I can't wait to see the things we will be doing in the future.

In Christ's love and peace,


Becky Robinson

GETTING TO KNOW THE CHURCH COUNCIL; DAVE THOMAS



As a member of St. John, and one of the older members of the council, I am sure that many of you know me.

My great-grandfather, grandfather, and uncle were all Lutheran pastors. And so, I grew up with a very different perspective of the workings of the church. Times then, were much different than they are today.

Growing up, if there were indecisions or obstacles in our daily life, there were two phrases that we would hear quite often: "If it's to be, it will be, and the good Lord will take care of everything."

Usually, on a Good Friday Service, my sister and I were the only "kids" who attended. When we asked why we had to attend, we were told:

"The Lord gave his life for you, the least you could do is give him one hour."

In the late 1980's, at a synod convention, I was honored to be elected to serve on the Board of Trustees at the Gettysburg Lutheran Seminary. This provided insight into the education of future pastors, and the future of the church.

Throughout my daily life, there have been three quotes which I think of often. Rose Kennedy, in an interview,

who had experienced the death of three sons, Joe, John & Robert, stated: "Birds sing after a storm, is there any reason we shouldn't sing also?"

I had a friend, Ms. Ida, who was a real hoot! One day, out of the blue, I received a "Thinking of You" card and was very pleased. A short time afterwards, I saw her, and thanked her for the card, and told her how much it meant to me. She replied, "What's 25 cents, when you know you've made somebody smile?" To this day, when I send a card, I hope that I am making somebody smile.

One afternoon, I received a call from First Lady Mamie Eisenhower inviting me to the farm for a visit. It was early spring, and we were sitting in the sunroom looking out over the fields and the woodland beyond.

The trees were just beginning to shoot green buds, and she said to me: "When you see the dead trees just beginning to come back into life, how can you not believe in the resurrection?"

Over the years, St. John has experienced difficulties in our church life, and yet we have always bounced back as a compassionate and loving congregation.

It is my hope that no matter what happens in the future, that St. John Church will remain a loving and prosperous congregation in the years to come.



RUTH'S HARVEST

Can you believe another school year is just around the corner? The summer is zipping by, and I have yet to get even one ripe tomato from my tomato plants. I've watered them, fertilized them, and even talked to them, but they're not producing ripe tomatoes!

Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield (RH-F) is already planning for the upcoming school year and reviewing the Southcentral Pennsylvania Foodbank website to see what food items might be available to us for our backpack program. It's not looking very helpful right now, though.

Of course we don't know yet how many students we'll be packing the week-end bags of food for this year, but we're looking forward to once again serving the food insecure students of the Fairfield Area School District.

Flyers will soon be available in the church listing food items that may be donated toward this mission outreach to our community youth. Donated food items may be placed in the box located in the chapel hallway marked Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield or they may be left at the Carroll Valley Borough office in the box labeled Ruth's Harvest. Monetary donations may be placed in the offering plate and designated for Ruth's Harvest or they may be mailed to Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield, 13 East Main Street, Fairfield, PA 17320.

As always, we are very grateful for the generous support St. John congregants and the Fairfield community have thoughtfully given in the 10 years Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield has been in existence.

With thankfulness and praise.

Respectfully,

Linn Wichowski

PROPERTY COMMITTEE

The sealing and striping of the parking lot are complete. The job was performed by Chris Minter Sealcoating. It looks really good.

Over the next few weeks we should exercise caution when it is wet. It may have a slipperiness to it because of being fresh. This will go away once we start driving over it more frequently.

Thanks to everyone for your help and cooperation in getting this done.

OUR STORIES, OURSELVES; FROM JULIE FALK

The writer Elie Wiesel once said, “God made man because he loves stories.” From ghostly tales around a campfire to the parables found in the gospels, stories have always played an important role in the way people learn and identify themselves. How well we know ourselves and each other depends a lot on how much we know of each other’s stories. This Fall, we’ll have an opportunity to engage in a storytelling project at St. John’s that could bring us closer, across all the ways in which we’re different from each other.

“Our Stories, Ourselves: The St. John Story Project” is based on a life story program I’ve done with other groups, tailored to suit our own church community. The story course guides people through selecting stories from different stages of their lives that seem important to them; stories of events that always come to mind when they think of that part of their lives. People gather weekly in groups of about a dozen and they may choose to share their story. We never critique or interpret the story. Instead, we learn to listen wholeheartedly and share how the story has touched us. Since we are a faith community, we’ll also weave exploration of our spiritual journeys and development into the experience.

I can promise you, there will be tons of laughter, a few tears when our invisible burdens are shared, and deepened respect for our common humanity.

The 5-week program is designed for adults, though older teens might also gain from it. You don’t have to be a great writer or reader (no grammar police!). You just need to be willing to spend a little time each week thinking of a story that feels important to you, and open to being present with the group in a curious and friendly way. We’ll have an orientation session in the first week of September. At that session, you can find out more details. We can decide what meeting times work best for those who are interested—and see if we might need to run two groups. You are welcome to bring a friend from the community or another parish with you. In the meantime, feel free to ask me about the program if you’re feeling curious.

THEMED BAGS FOR THE FOOD PANTRY

Thank you to St. John for sponsoring the June “Theme Bag” for the Fairfield Food Pantry. Each month, with the exception of November and December, area churches and organizations sponsor and deliver the bags as something “a little special” for clients of the pantry. This year St. John, through Kennie’s Market in Gettysburg, provided 31 bags containing strawberries, shortcake, and whipped topping.



FROM THE MANY DESKS OF CAROL GARMAN



MUSIC NEWS | Thank you to our musicians who have shared their talents during the month of July.

There are still dates available for any musicians who would like to provide special music for Sunday morning services. If you are interested or know someone who might be, please contact me at 717-474-0923.

ANNUAL TALENT SHOW | Our annual Talent Show & Ice Cream Social will be held August 23 at 6:00PM. Anyone is welcome to participate (instrumental & vocal musicians, story telling, gymnastics, dance, magic tricks, jokes, poetry, skits etc.) Acts do not need to be sacred, but do need to be in good taste.

Community members are welcome to participate as well! We need audience members also! If you are interested in sharing a talent, or know someone who is, please contact me at 717-476-0923.

UPCOMING DATES

Aug. 10 (Sun) Christian Ed meeting immediately following worship service

Aug. 12 (Tues) Worship & Music Committee meeting 9:30AM

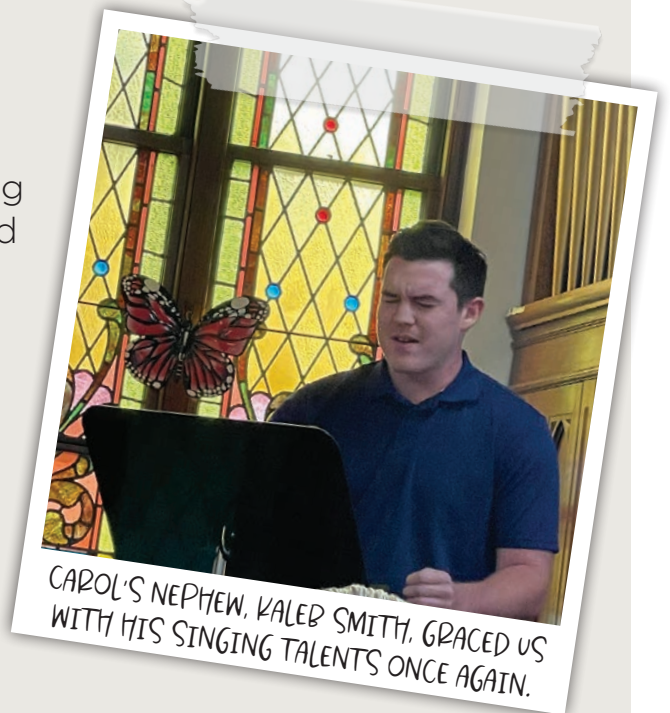
Aug. 17 (Sun) Of The Lands and Seasons Liturgy, Sunday summer fun for kids & youth after worship service, 10:15-11AM

Aug. 23 (Sat) Talent Show/Ice Cream Social 6PM

Aug. 31 (Sun) Outdoor Worship Service at Carroll Valley Park, followed by picnic

Sept. 3 (Wed) WOV(singers) & Hand Bell rehearsals begin

Sept. 7 (Sun) Rally Day/Sunday School resumes



CAROL'S NEPHEW, KALEB SMITH, GRACED US WITH HIS SINGING TALENTS ONCE AGAIN.

Carol

WOMEN OF ST. JOHN

The Women of St. John have been busy planning the meals they prepare for the Lions Club and discussing things for the upcoming craft fair.

The Women will be holding another craft fair/soup & bake sale. It will be on Saturday, November 8 from 9:00AM - 3:00PM. Applications are available in the gathering area and online at the St. John website under the upcoming events page. Applications will be taken on a first come first serve basis. Last year we had 17 vendors set up and it is our hope to provide additional spaces this year. So, submit your application as soon as you are able!

Anyone that has an interest and would to learn how to crochet, please text or call or see in person, Frances at 717-491-7298. All will be welcomed!! After seeing how many may be interested, more information will be provided.

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.

CORN EXTRAVAGANZA!

In preparation for soup making for Pippinfest, a bunch of corn was processed and stuck in the freezer. Many hands make for light work!



FAMILY MINISTRIES - POTLUCK & PLOT TWIST

On July 27, Family Ministries held a potluck dinner where they played a live game of Clue. Attendees divided into groups and had to question each other for clues until they found out who killed Mr. Boddy in what room with what weapon!



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



Sunday, September 14th
10:15-11:15am

Help us kick off the new Sunday School year
with carnival games, crafts and refresh-
ments!

Join us this year as we explore the bible!

Sundays from 10:15-11:15am

Classes for All Ages!
Preschool- High School
Confirmation (7th & 8th and Adults)
Adult Class

No Sunday School Pippenfest Weekend



SPAGHETTI DINNER

St. Mary's Church, 256 Tract Road, Fairfield, will be holding an all-you-can-eat spaghetti dinner in the parish hall on Sunday August 10th from 3:00 to 6:00 pm. Dinner includes, spaghetti, meatballs, sausage, salad, bread stick, drinks and dessert. Carry-outs are available. The cost is \$10.00 for adults, \$5.00 for children 6 to 12 and under 6 free. All are welcome and no reservations are needed. For additional information call 717-642-8815.

APPLICATIONS NOW AVAILABLE!

Applications for the Women of St. John's craft fair vendors are available in the gathering area and on our website, under 'Upcoming Events'!!

PRAYERS REQUESTED

+ Prayers to the family of Audrey Moritz as they mourn her passing.

THANK YOUs

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

† Thank you to Doug and Susie Kump for mowing the church lawn. It always looks amazing!

**ST. JOHN WORSHIP AND PICNIC AT THE PARK
AUGUST 31 | 10AM**



Join us for worship at 10AM (please note this different start time) on Sunday, August 31 at Carroll Valley Park. Following the service, we will have a potluck picnic. Picnic meat and drinks will be provided by the council. There is a sign up sheet for a side dish or dessert in the fellowship hall. Questions, please see Josh Haynes.

FIND US ON FACEBOOK!

PAGE | Saint John Lutheran Church

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

UPCOMING EVENTS

**AUG
11**

Council Meeting
Social Hall
6:30PM

**AUG
17**

Kids & Youth Activities
After Service
10:15 - 11:00AM

**AUG
23**

Talent Show/
Ice Cream Social
6:00PM

**AUG
31**

Outdoor Service
Carroll Valley Park
10:00AM

UPCOMING BIRTHDAYS *(If you see them, wish them Happy Birthday!)*

AUG 6

BOB FITZ
JACK RUNK

AUG 16

ESSIE GILMORE

AUG 7

NICHOLAS WHEELER

AUG 17

ALEX KUMP

AUG 11

ADDISON YINGLING
RUTHIE FITZGERALD

AUG 20

TERRY KUYKENDALL

AUG 12

SUSAN SWIAT

AUG 25

TASHA SANDERS

AUG 15

DAWN COOL
EVELYN ROBINSON

AUG 28

SHELLY WHEELER

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 | KEELY GROFT

FRANCIS BASSETT

BARB BOOZ

CHRIS COOL

MIKE GAMER

KEVAN TAYLOR

DAVE THOMAS

