

ST. JOHN NEWS



ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH



office@stjohnfairfield.net



www.stjohnfairfield.net



Sunday Worship Service
9AM



Jesus said, "But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea, and to the ends of the earth." Acts 1:8 NRSV

Each Sunday the bulletin at St. John Lutheran Church makes the bold statement that your mission is to make Christ known. I believe it is a very fine mission statement because it is simple, easy to remember, and certainly a worthy task. To make Christ known.....how do you do that?

Pastor's Report

The congregation has an Evangelism Committee. Is it their job to make Christ known? Is the rest of the congregation off the hook because they have a committee to do that work? No! As Lutherans you are evangelical, you are a people who have good news to share. On Sunday morning when you walk out of the doors of the church you are walking into the mission field sent to bring the good news you received in worship to everyone you encounter during your week. You are the Evangelism Committee's most potent tool! You are the witnesses Jesus was talking about as he spoke to the people gathered around him about to be taken up to sit at the right hand of his Father.

Bill Anderson had a song that included these lyrics, "Norman never went to church, I often heard him say, "I'd rather see a sermon, than hear one any day. Show me a man who lives his faith, by his actions and his deeds. That's the only Bible I'll ever have to read." Norman is spot on! Your most effective witness for Jesus in the world is to live in it as Jesus would have you live. Do the people around you experience God's love when they see you interacting with people? Do they experience God's love in the words you speak?

(Continued on page 2)

A special message from Pastor Wayne

Dear people of St. John Lutheran Church,

At the September Church Council meeting I informed the leadership that my final day serving at St. John would be Sunday, April 4, 2026. I have been serving as your Interim Pastor since February of 2025, and I have enjoyed it very much. You have a very fine Call Committee guiding you through the process of calling a new pastor. I urge you to above all, trust that God will provide and that the leadership of St. John is working diligently to call a pastor to serve you. The call process can be a slow process and it should be. The reality of the day is that you may need to be open to new ways of being church. I applaud you for entering a conversation with Flohr's Lutheran Church. There may be other options as well. I ask you to keep an open mind that is willing to follow the Holy Spirit's lead.

Pastor's Report cont. from page 1

We used to ask people attending new member's classes why they chose to join our church. Almost all of them, 99% of them, said they came because of what they saw and heard from members of the church. They didn't come because the pastor invited them, they came because they encountered the love of God in their interactions with members of the congregation. They liked what they heard or how they were treated. Your words, your actions, your compassion, empathy, stewardship, and your love of Christ are all potent witnesses to Jesus and God's love in the world. People of St. John, go and make Christ known in all that you say and do.

Peace,
Pastor Wayne



**Sunday School for
Preschool- adults
held Sundays from
10:15-11:15am**

**Weekly adult Bible
study: Wednesdays
at 9:30AM**

October 11- Harvest Home Sunday

October 23- Reformation Sunday.

November 1- All Saints Day



Confirmation

Pastor Wayne continues to meet with confirmation students the first & third Sundays of each month during the Sunday School Hour.



Music Corner

BY CAROL GARMAN

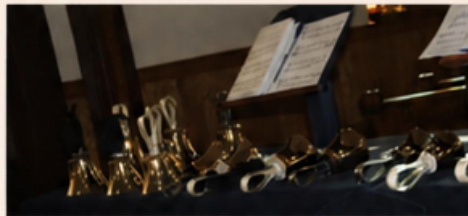
With One Voice and Hand Bell Choir

Our choirs are back into the routine of regular rehearsals and sharing their music during worship service. Both groups rehearse on Wednesday evenings. WOV at 6:45pm and bells at 7:30pm. New members are welcome.

Children's Choir will practice during Sunday School.

Opportunities are available for instrumental & vocal solos, duets etc. If you know of someone who might be interested in sharing their talents during Sunday morning worship service, please let me know!

Christmas Choir will begin rehearsing in late November. If you are interested in singing with the choir Christmas Eve, please contact me!



Call Committee Update

The Call Committee and the Church Council at St. John met with Pastor Beth Martini (Assistant to the Bishop) and Pastor Christopher Suehr (Dean of the Gettysburg Conference) on September 10th to review and submit our Ministry Site Profile to the Lower Susquehanna ELCA Website. The Ministry Site Profile (or MSP for short) is now active on the website, and we are open to Pastors who are looking for a call. We are very excited to receive potential candidates and begin the interview process! The Call Committee will continue to meet each month, and we will continue to attend the monthly Zoom call for Call Committees hosted by Pastor Beth which is held on the 2nd Monday of each month.

The Call Committee has invited the congregation to an informal meeting on Sunday, 10/4, after worship to answer your questions and receive feedback on the Call process. The congregation has provided valuable information to the Call Committee through our surveys this past Spring, and through discussion with the various committees and ministries at St. John. Your input is greatly appreciated, and we look forward to meeting with you!

Thank you again to our Call Committee Members - Lisa Simmons, Linn Wichowski, Cory Runk, Julie Faulk and Larry Hull for their hard work and dedication as we move through the Call Process to find our new Pastor.

- Mike Gamer

Ruth's Harvest- Fairfield

This school year is in full swing, and Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield started the year packing 43 bags for food insecure students in the Fairfield Area School District. That number is comprised of 27 elementary students, 12 middle school students and 4 high school students.

We are again receiving fresh apples from El Vista Orchards, and Matt Booz has donated boxes of saltine crackers and mayonnaise packets.

We are in need of peanut butter-to-go, Chef Boyardee cups or cans, individual boxes of cereal, granola bars and packets of oatmeal.

As always, thank you very much for your commitment to and support of Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield. We Are making a difference in the lives of these students.

Respectfully,
Linn Wichowski



*At the beginning of every school year,
the Ruth's Harvest-Fairfield's Board of
Directors traditionally do the first packing of the
bags. We are very blessed to have faithful
members.*



Family Ministry

Pippinfest 2026

We had another successful Pippinfest!

Thank you to everyone who:

- Donated ingredients or funds to purchase ingredients
- Those who did prep work by husking, cutting, cooking, and freezing bags of fresh corn
- Donated quart containers for soup
- Made quart after quart of three kinds of delicious soups
- Peeled and chopped apples for fritters and bagged dry ingredients for the dough
- Set up the booth and tore it down afterwards
- Donated corn and apples
- Washed dishes again and again
- Volunteered to sell soup and fritters
- Fried the fritters
- Helped in any way!

It truly takes a village (or congregation) and everyone's help is so appreciated! We made \$4,664.00 which will go into St. John's general fund.



Sunday, October 25th from 5-7pm we will be having our annual pizza and pumpkin event. There is a sign up on the board in the fellowship hall. Pizza, pumpkins and decorating supplies will be provided. Feel free to bring a side, dessert or beverage to share. When signing up, please indicate the number of people coming for pizza and the number of people decorating pumpkins.

Friendsgiving Potluck- Join us for our friendsgiving on Sunday, November 22nd from 4-7pm. There is a sign up in the fellowship hall. Turkey will be provided.

If you have any questions, or would like to help plan family ministry events, please see Stacey Haynes.

Apple Cake

Recipe from Sue Hull

1. Mix 3 eggs with 1 cup of Wesson Oil. Beat together until fluffy.
2. Add 2 cups of sugar. Set aside.
3. Mix together dry ingredients: 2 cups flour, ½ tsp. salt, 1 tsp. cinnamon, and 1 tsp. baking soda
4. Add dry ingredients to egg mixture.
5. Dice 4 cups of apples and fold into the batter.
6. You can also fold in 1 cup crushed walnuts if desired.
7. Pour batter into a well-greased 9 x 13 pan.
8. Bake for 45 minutes @ 350 degrees.

Clothing Give Away

See the flyer to the left about the upcoming fall and winter clothing giveaway event. Any questions, please see Frances, DeeDee, or Tammy.

Treasurer Position

St. John is looking for a church treasurer as our current treasurer, Sandy Kump, will be resigning at the end of the year. This is a budgeted position. If you are interested in serving St. John in this capacity, please see Josh Haynes or members of the Personnel Committee (Sue Hull, Linn Wichowski, Linda Sanders, or Tammy Deardoff) for more information.

Everyone is
welcome
to participate!



Sizes available
for infants to
adults.

FALL & WINTER CLOTHING GIVEAWAY

We will take:

- +Clean/gently used fall/winter clothes
- +Gently used shoes
- +Halloween costumes
- +Baby accessories (playpens, bouncers, high chairs, swings, etc.)
- +Maternity clothing



We will not take:

- Summer clothes
- Car seats
- Toys

Please sort
donations by
size & gender.

Saturday, October 17"

8-11a.m. Donations accepted.

11-1p.m. Shop for Free!

**Liberty Worship Center
29 Carrols Tract Rd, Fairfield**

Aluminum Can Collection

We will continue to collect clean aluminum cans throughout the year. You can bring them to the box in the fellowship hall.



Proceeds go to purchase supplies for Kid's Club and Sunday School.



Trick or Treating at St. John

St. John will once again be handing out candy for the Halloween Trick or Treaters! Starting in October, we will have a box in the Narthex for donations of candy.

Anyone is welcome to come hand out candy on October 31. We typically decorate the church porch. Bring a chair and come enjoy the evening! Feel free to dress up in costume!



God's Work, Our Hands

Thank you to everyone who donated items for our God's Work, Our Hands project (Hillside & Comfort Care) . We were able to give each individual resident a small bag of personal care items as well as some bins of larger items to be shared.



Adopt a Family for Christmas

We will once again be collecting Christmas gifts for children and families that are financially challenged. We need help typing up the lists. We usually get the information the third week in November and compile a list from each child's info sheet. If you would be willing to help out, please contact Carol Garman or Stacey Haynes.



Thank You!

- All our musicians who shared their talents with us during worship services last month
- All who helped in any way for Pippinfest
- Those who help with worship every week, including the worship assistants, ushers, acolytes, and communion assistants
- Pastor Wayne for his leadership

Craft Fair

Save the Date: Sat. Nov. 7th will be our 3rd Annual Craft Fair! Location: St. John fellowship hall & gathering area. 9 a.m. – 3 p.m. We will be selling chicken corn soup, ham & bean, and yummy bake sale items. Also featured will be various crafts by many different vendors.

Harvest Home Sunday

Harvest Home will be Sunday, October 11th. Please take this opportunity to share your blessings by bringing items to donate to the food pantry that day. We will also be doing Of the Lands and Seasons liturgy that Sunday morning.



Happy Birthday

October Birthdays

Susan Strahler	9
Karen Koontz	11
Barb Booz	12
Cassie Click	16
Chuck Szarowski, Sr.	18
Jenna Taylor Neubauer	18
Virginia Miller	21
Chuck Szarowski, Jr.	27
Savannah Bollinger Dindino	31

Kids' Club

Kids' Club will begin on Thursday, November 5th. We meet from 3:45-5pm for a snack, games, a Bible story, music activities and a craft. Transportation is available from the school. Contact Carol Garman for more information.