



St. John's Lutheran Church

Hatboro, PA
Faith – Service – Community

Monthly News & Updates

June 2026



A Letter from Pastor Bo

June 2026

Follow Me!

June takes us out of John and back to Matthew for the first time in a while. Where John is rather abstract and ethereal, we need Matthew's practical discipleship to sustain us in the dog days of summer.

June 7th – The Call. We start off with a bang, Matthew leaving the tax booth and following after Jesus. Then Jesus builds relationships with Matthew's friends, the wickeder the better. Sounds like a good day to invite friends and neighbors to church, and also to Bingo.

June 14th – The Harvest is Plentiful. This world might make us frustrated or angry. Jesus, however, looks and sees people 'harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd.' Time to pray for laborers to be sent into the harvest field. And you are the answer to those prayers. Let's take a look at the job requirements.

June 21st – Conflict Can't Be Avoided. Hey, I didn't set the rules. Jesus said we're going to have conflict. And in these conflicts, we must prioritize faithfulness to Christ over getting along with people. Just remember, the Christ to whom we are faithful is the one who loves people, so this isn't permission to be a jerk. Rather, it is permission to boldly break through the world's restrictions on love.

June 28th – The Reward. Every little act of love pays off. Everything makes it to a redemptive end. Don't hesitate to invest anything good, because you will receive a joyful return.

Summer is not a time for spiritual slouching. Especially probably not this summer. We are having to think about practical Christian faithfulness more than we have for a long time.

Grace and peace,
Pastor Bo



Our Mission:

To be a loving, accepting community centered on growing in Christ.

Our Vision:

To give people a place to belong at any stage of their journey with God.



Important Dates in June

June 6 – Horsham Day

June 7 – Bingo

June 28 – Bucks-Mont Pride Festival



Food Pantry Report

April 5, 2026

March was a month of extremes. Client visits on specific days were sometimes double the usual visits and other weeks we had days with only twelve families. We cannot offer any explanation so we just keep moving ahead. That being said, we registered 42 new clients in March serving 367 families. We continue to see a decrease in client visits on Tuesdays. But we have seen an increase in visits on Wednesday morning and Thursday evening shifts.

Donations in general have been down for the month. We continue to receive donations and financial support from our partner churches. We provided twelve hams to Church of the Advent for their community meal this month. We were also able to provide about 30 pounds of white rice to Hatboro Baptist for use in one of their community meals.

One other significant change in our donations was with Easter hams. We normally have Giant customers donate their ham gift certificates to our pantry. Usually at least 30+ hams are donated. This year we did not receive any. Speculation from our volunteers is that the Giant customers are saving their points for their gas purchases. We were able to offer the clients ham (until depleted), whole roaster chickens, duck or lasagna. Thus we were able to offer all of the clients an Easter meal albeit an unconventional one.

Our need for a substitute team leader is becoming more urgent. Although we have reached out to several of our volunteers we have not been successful in our efforts.

As always, we are grateful for our dedicated volunteers and all of the organizations that support us in providing food and personal care items for those in need.

Current Needs List

Cereal • Oatmeal • Canned Mixed Vegetables • Canned Carrots • Canned Potatoes •
Condensed Vegetable Soup • Condensed Chicken Noodle Soup • Chef Boyardee Beefaroni
• Canned Chunk Light Tuna • Elbow Macaroni

In addition to food and toiletry donations, the Community Cupboard is looking for donations of metal cabinets to hold our inventory.

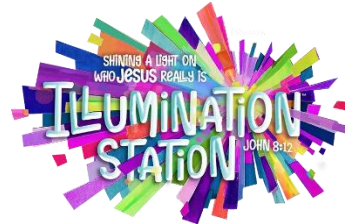
Youth News & Events

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

This summer we will hold two five-day VBS sessions, one in July and one in August. All children ages 3 (and potty trained) through 6th grade are welcome to join us, and children entering 7th grade and up are welcome to volunteer!

We will also be looking for adult volunteers to lead stations like games, snack, science, and craft, and others to lead the groups from station to station.

Please reach out to Abbie Metheny at sjchrised@gmail.com to register your kids or to sign up to volunteer!



ILLUMINATION STATION

July 13-17

9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Parent Program: Thursday, July 16, 6 pm



ROAD TRIP

August 3-7

9:30 am – 12:00 pm

Parent Program: Thursday, August 6, 6 pm



Sunday School and Confirmation have concluded for the summer, but join us again in September!

CHURCH NEWS



St. John's is going to Horsham Day, and we need your help! We are looking for volunteers to man our table (you do not need to be there the entire time). Horsham Day is on **Saturday, June 6th**. We'll set up our table beginning at 9 am, and take everything down again at 3:30 pm. If you're interested in helping out, sign up on the sign-up sheet or email stjohnspublicitycommittee@gmail.com by June 1st (information will be sent out on June 1st).



Congratulations Class of 2026!

We are so proud of all of the members of our church family graduating this spring!

Gabe Flannery – La Salle University

Amanda Keller – Penn State University

Samuel Killenbeck – CB South

Natalie Linn – Hatboro Horsham High School

Jillian Twigg – William Tennent High School

Congratulations from St. John's!

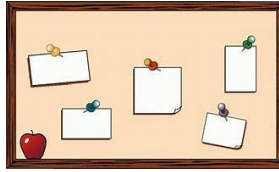


Mark your calendars, because St. John's is holding Bingo on Sunday, June 7th at 1:00 pm! Admission is \$40 in advance, \$45 at the door, and includes 12 bingo cards. Join us for 12 games and 3 bonus rounds. If you reserve a table of 8, you get **8 free** bonus cards! Contact Janice Vallone for tickets at 215-480-3823.



Book Club

Come join us at book club! We meet monthly and discuss the book of the month. Each member chooses a book and we rotate through each member. The next book club book is "First Lie Wins" by Ashley Elston. We'll meet on **Sunday, June 14th at 1 pm** in the church library. Hope to see you there!



Next Newsletter Deadline

The deadline for the July Newsletter is **June 15th**. Please send any photos, events, notes, or volunteer opportunities to Ashdon at office@sjich.org.



Council wants to hear from you! Church members are invited to speak to Council every month at the beginning of their meeting. Council meets on the third Wednesday of the month at 7 pm in Fellowship Hall. Our May meeting will be on **Wednesday, June 17th**.



Troop 81 Court of Honor

St. John's charters Scout Troop 81, and their Court of Honor will be **Monday, June 22nd at 7:30 pm** in the Sanctuary, with snacks to follow in Fellowship Hall. Please come out to support our scouts!



Photo Directory

St. John's is putting together a new directory to reflect our many new members in the last several years. Forms will be attached to your weekly bulletins, please fill them out to indicate what information you would like included. Drop it off in the **marked basket in the Narthex** or give it to **Alan Divver** after service. If you have filled out a form for the directory previously, please **still fill out this form**.

We want to ensure as much of our congregation is included as possible. Please provide information by **Sunday, June 21st, 2026**. Any questions or to provide additional information, please contact Alan Divver at stjohnsdirectory2026@gmail.com



Bucks-Mont Pride Festival

Join the Publicity Committee at Pride this year! We will need volunteers to help man the St. John's table at the Bucks-Mont Pride Festival on **Sunday, June 28 from 10-5** at the Abington Art Center in Jenkintown.

Large Print Bulletins Now Available

Large print versions of the weekend bulletins are now available in the Narthex before services.



Take a Seat Fundraiser

Thanks to the generosity of our church members, Fellowship Hall has already been painted and the floors refinished at no cost to the church. The next item has been replacing the old tables and chairs, and we're asking for sponsors to help pay for it! We purchased 5 round tables (\$275 each), 8 rectangular tables (\$75 each), and 30 folding chairs (\$35 each). To sponsor an item or give a donation to the cause, select "Property" on your envelope and write "Fellowship Hall improvements", and don't forget to cross off the item you've sponsored on the posters in the Narthex! Your support helps to keep Fellowship Hall welcoming for meals, meetings, and fellowship events.



Community Outreach Pet Drive

The Community Outreach Ministry Team will be holding a Furry Friends Drive from Saturday, June 29 – Sunday, July 19. We will be collecting wet and dry food for dogs and cats. Treats, toys, collars, food/water bowls, and leashes will also be appreciated. We will be collecting gift cards as well! Please place the gift cards in the Offering plate with the dollar value of the card, and label it as "Community Outreach." Please consider helping our furry friends in our community. All donations will go to local pet rescues and our Community Cupboard at St. John's. There will be boxes in the Narthex for the items. Thank you for your support. All our furry friends thank you with a big bark and meow!



St. John's Community Garden

Do you like to garden? Enjoy growing your own vegetables? We have a great opportunity for you to participate in nurturing our garden and helping to provide fruits and vegetables to the community and food pantry clients. Planting beds are in place and vegetable or fruit starter plants will be provided by the pantry. We are hoping to get the garden started within the next few weeks. If you are interested in joining us in this fun and worthwhile project, please see any of the pantry team leaders or contact the church office.



Publicity Committee Photos

Our committee cannot always be at every event. If you attend events at St. John's, please take photos and send them to stjohnspublicitycommittee@gmail.com, so we can put them on our social media accounts! *We want to respect everyone's privacy: If you or your family do not want your pictures posted on social media, please send us an email with your first and last name, and you will be put on our "do not share my picture" list to ensure your privacy.*



Air Conditioning Fundraiser

We are anticipating that we will need to replace the sanctuary's air conditioner next year, and it's time to get a head start on fundraising! We are aiming to raise \$100,000, and as of the end of April we have raised over **\$20,000!** Please mark your donations for the air conditioner, and watch our progress on the thermometer in the Narthex!

April 2026 Operating Budget Update

Year-to-Date Financial Status 4/30/26	
Income	\$147,973.90
Expenses	\$143,891.28
Gain	\$4,082.62

This chart does not include donations to the Capital Improvement fund, which is not part of the operating budget.



Pastor Bo's New Office Hours

Anyone is welcome to come by to see Pastor Bo Mondays and Tuesdays between 3 pm and 5 pm, Thursdays between 10 am and 12 pm, or by appointment by contacting him at 765-426-0500, or via email at PastorBo@sjlch.org.

Coming Soon:



Double Fun Ice Cream Social with a Twist!

The Fellowship Connections will be working with Community Outreach Ministry to collect pet supplies! Come out to the Ice Cream Social on **Saturday July 18 at 6:00pm**. Have some ice cream, listen to great music, crafts for the kids, a guessing jar and donate a pet item! If you are not able to join us for the Ice Cream Social, you are welcome to drop off a gift card in the Offering Plate or place a pet item in the boxes found in the Narthex.

Join Us in the Fall!

A number of our programs are taking a break for the summer, but will be back in September!

- Bell Choir
- Coffee Hour
- Confirmation
- Faith Explorers
- Sunday School
- Traditional Choir



VOLUNTEER



Committee Members Needed

We need members for the following committees:

Adopt a Highway - We are looking for someone to take over the Adopt-A-Highway program. This would entail organizing volunteers to pick-up trash once in the spring and once in the fall. St. John has adopted the section of York Road from County Line Rd to Bristol Road. Please contact Trish Strauss at 610-517-6471 if you are interested.

Altar Guild - We are looking for volunteers to join Altar Guild. Can you set up for a communion service and put away everything after the service? You will be working alongside someone that is an experienced team member. Set up and take down for communion takes approximately 40 minutes each time. Altar Guild is looking for members to help us out every four to five weeks. Contact the church office or Chris Brinkworth at 267-474-1395.

Coffee Hour - May 17th was the last coffee hour for the summer. Thank you to all who stopped by for delicious goodies and fellowship! Thank you especially to our teams who worked hard setting up, cleaning up, and baking a lot of the goodies that we all enjoyed!! Our volunteers are awesome and do such a great job! Right now we are down to 3 teams, which means that each month, one of the teams serve twice a month. The ideal schedule is once a month per team, but in order to do that we will need a few more volunteers. Our 'jobs' entail making coffee, putting out snacks, paper goods, and items for the coffee table (cups, sugar, creamer, etc), and putting it away at the end of the hour. I hope that over the summer you will consider joining us, and I'm looking forward to getting together again in the fall! Many hands make light work (and much coffee!). Marcie Divver

Hatboro Community Cupboard – Want to join an exciting team that serves our community?

- **Drivers** - Hatboro Community Cupboard needs volunteers with an SUV or truck to pick up donations the first Wednesday of every month from Noon-2:00 PM in Lansdale. Some heavy lifting is involved. You do not have to commit to every month to get on the volunteer list. Please call the office if you're interested!
- **Volunteers** – We are in need of volunteers for our evening shifts on Monday and Thursday evenings. Please sign up using the link on our website.
- **Team Leader** - We are looking for an individual to join our leadership team. Duties would include a one-hour meeting once a month (usually the fourth Wednesday) to discuss updates and status of all aspects of pantry operations, and filling in for team leaders during vacations. If you are interested in learning more about this opportunity to serve the community and work with a great group of volunteers, please reach out to Carol Schlegel at cschlegel9@aol.com.

Head Ushers - Our Usher team is looking for one or two head ushers this year. If you are interested, please see Joe Kircher or reach out to the office for more information!

VOLUNTEER



Committee Members Needed (continued.)

We need members for the following committees:

Kids & Family Ministry - One of our team members is stepping down from the committee, so we're looking for new members! Our team works together to plan and execute Sunday School, Vacation Bible School, and other events for youth and families at St. John's.

Media Team - Are you...a Confirmand who needs to meet your Worship Participation requirements? A student looking for Community Service Opportunities? Someone interested in learning a new skill and helping out behind the scenes? We would love your help running the cameras, lights, and sound equipment that take our weekend and online services to the next level! Contact the office for more details.

Property Committee - The Property Committee is inviting members of St. John's to consider joining the committee. This committee is responsible for the church building, the church grounds, as well as the building and grounds at 457 Crescent Rd (parsonage). Committee needs are currently most often handled by email contact. Check the tab for committees on the church website to see the postings of what has been done each month. If you are interested in joining, please contact the office.

Publicity Committee - The Publicity Committee is looking for skilled members to help maintain our website and social media accounts, as well as volunteers who would be interested in manning a St. John's table at various events. Please reach out to us at stjohnspublicitycommittee@gmail.com if you are interested!

Women's Ministry - Our Women's Ministry program is going to be "Re-imagined." We are looking for volunteers to join our committee to help plan future Women's Ministry activities and events. Please consider volunteering and being part of the future of Women's Ministry at St. John's. If you are interested, please see Carolyn Kircher or Pastor Bo, or email Carolyn Kircher at kirchercj615@verizon.net.

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St. John's Lutheran
Church – Hatboro



@sjlch505



Subscribe to Our YouTube Channel!

We're trying to get to 100 Subscribers! You can find us on YouTube by searching "St. John's Lutheran Church Hatboro."



Check Out Our Website!

Please find us at www.stjohnslutheranhatboro.org to stay up to date on what's happening at St. John's! Find Pastor Bo's sermons, upcoming events, and information about the church and the food pantry, and more!

Church Staff & Contact Information



Pastor Bo Bannister

Cell: 765-426-0500

Email: pastorbo@sjlch.org

Minister of Music: Michael Brinkworth

Director of Christian Education: Abbie Metheny

Email: sjchrised@gmail.com

Office Administrator: Ashdon Bobbie

Church Office: (215) 675-2031

Church Email: office@sjlch.org

Church Website:

www.stjohnslutheranhatboro.org

Publicity Committee Email:

stjohnspublicitycommittee@gmail.com

St. John's Office Hours:
Monday-Thursday 9 am – 2 pm
Friday *By Appointment Only*
Please call the office before coming in.

Pastor Bo's Office Hours:
Monday-Tuesday 3 pm – 5 pm
Thursday 10 am – 12 pm
Or by appointment