

FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 W. King Street
 York, PA 17401-1307
 Phone: 717-843-8597



Website: www.firststjohns.com

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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO

**PARISH VISITOR**

FIRST ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH-WE ARE AN OUTREACH CHURCH

Be together at First St. John's - Your Community Church and Your Family in JESUS



VOLUME 51 ISSUE 7

Website: www.firststjohns.com

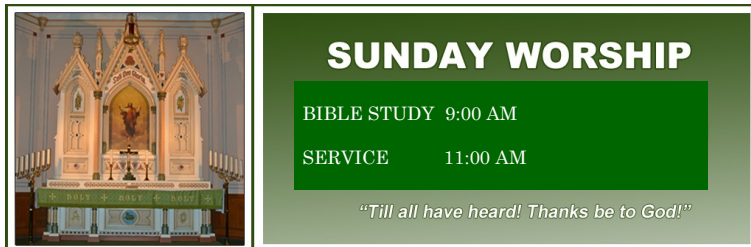
JULY 2019

Acts 2: the Holy Spirit

- Pentecost (means 50th): refers to the Jewish feast of harvest held 50 days after the Passover.
- God timed the appearance of the Holy Spirit - and thus the start of the church - to coincide with the Harvest Feast.
- The Apostles experienced the initial Power of the Spirit on this day.

Pentecost

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly a sound came from heaven like the rush of a mighty wind, and it filled all the house where they were sitting. And there appeared to them tongues as of fire, distributed and resting on each one of them. And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance. ~Acts 2:1-4



REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

Sunday -	9:00 AM Bible Study 11:00 AM Sunday Worship
Monday -	PANERA BREAD DISTRIBUTION 9:00-11:00 AM
Wednesday	6:30 PM - Adult Choir (September through May/June)
Thursday	6:30 PM - Narcotics Anonymous Meeting

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

www.firststjohns.com

WELCOME

Our calling is for all to know Jesus as Lord and be an effective magnet involving lives for Jesus Christ. Worship should always be focused on God, the time honored traditions of worship are observed here, we want worship to be glorifying to God, honoring to God and reminding us of the greatness and glory of God. People say that they have truly worshipped after our Sunday morning service.

We are a very welcoming church and we want to help you to know Jesus.

Contact Us

Phone 717.843.8597

E-Mail: firststjohns@verizon.net

First St. Johns Lutheran Church
140 W. King St., York PA 17401

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NEW HIGH SECURITY KEY-LOCKS WERE INSTALLED ON THE FRONT AND BACK ENTRANCE DOORS OF THE CHURCH.

THE NEW KEY FITS BOTH LOCKS.

IF YOU HAVE THE OLD ENTRANCE KEYS PLEASE DISCARD THEM.



SUNDAY SERVICES

Communion and Non-Communion, Services are held during the month, Prayer and Preaching Non-Communion services are held on the 5th Sunday of months with 5 Sundays.

We print bulletins in English (small and large print), and Chinese for morning worship. Please contact us in advance if you need a Spanish bulletin.

PHONE: (717) 843-8597

COME
WORSHIP
with us!



If you would like to receive the monthly newsletter by email please contact the church office at (717) 843-8597 or send an email to firststjohns@verizon.net.



If you or someone you know is a shut-in, has an illness or is unable to worship with us due to other circumstances, please call the church office.

The church phone number is: 717-843-8597

OR

EMAIL: firststjohns@verizon.net



GET IN TOUCH

This article is reprinted from Breakpoint.

The Point: Christian Patriotism

by: [John Stonestreet](#)

Category: [The Point](#)



Can a Christian be patriotic?

Years ago on BreakPoint, Chuck Colson pointed out how Americans used to openly embrace the Christian traditions and values that shaped our Republic. In that culture, it was easy for a Christian to be a patriot. Perhaps too easy. Vibrant, biblical faith could degenerate into a civil religion, where the country's well-being and the expansion of God's Kingdom were synonymous.

But today, many Americans have rejected the religious values that informed our society.

Where along this range of attitudes is true Christian patriotism?

Well, first, we mustn't deify our country. We don't wrap the flag around the cross. Our citizenship is in heaven, and that's where our ultimate allegiance is.

But as Chuck said, we can't love mankind in the abstract; we can only really love people in the particular, concrete relationships God has placed us in—our family, our church, our community, and our nation.

So celebrate this July Fourth by thanking God for calling us into His kingdom and allowing us to live in—and yes, love—this land of liberty.



Music & Worship Notes

As I looked over the past few months of articles, I realized that I began explaining the background of the church festivals with Epiphany and ended with Trinity Sunday. I totally missed the first two main festivals that start the church year. So we will have "Christmas in July" so to speak as I focus on Advent and Christmas.

Advent Since the eighth century, Advent has marked the beginning of the church year. The First Sunday in Advent is the Sunday occurring nearest, or upon, St. Andrew's Day, November 30. that means that the First Sunday of Advent can fall on any day between November 27 and December 3. At one time Easter was the beginning of the church year. In the fourth century, when the festival of Christmas was introduced at Rome, it became the beginning of the church year.

With its acceptance as a four-Sunday season of preparation for Christmas, Advent naturally became the beginning of the church year.

Advent has come to have a threefold meaning for the church: 1) the advent of our Lord in the flesh at Christmas; 2) the advent of the Lord in Word and in Spirit; 3) the advent of our Lord in glory at the end of time.

Christmas The exact time of the birth of Jesus - the day, the month, and even the year - is not known. But for several centuries no one cared much about the date of our Lord's birth anyway. For one thing, His life and work, and especially His resurrection, were so much more important to the early Christians.

In the earliest centuries, there was one festival which commemorated both the birth and baptism of Christ, Epiphany. The date of December 25 was instituted at Rome before 336 AD. The choice of the date was already determined by an existing pagan festival there, the birth of the sun-god, *Natalis solis invicti*. Not only theologically, but also liturgically, the new festival was important.

The crèche dates back to St. Frances of Assisi who is said to have built the first one in 1223. As the festival became more "popular," carols on the birth of Christ as well as plays and the reading of the Gospel story by priests, choir boys, and cantors, have added much to the religious meaning of the season.



Ken Sanders,
Minister of Music

THE ADULT CHOIR:: Sharon Hennig, Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger,
Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, Wally Smith, Quitao Zhang, Ding Wang,
Maria Stankiewicz, Brian Stankiewicz



The special offering for the month of

JULY

American Bible Society



JULY 2019 PARISH VISITOR



AUGUST 2019 DEADLINE

Articles Due July 19th-Friday

Mail Date July 25th-Thursday

Newsletter

Bible Study

9:00 AM



MEETINGS IN JULY

Worship Committee

Church Council

Future Committee

To be announced

11th-Thursday-5:30 pm

Wednesday-9:00 am

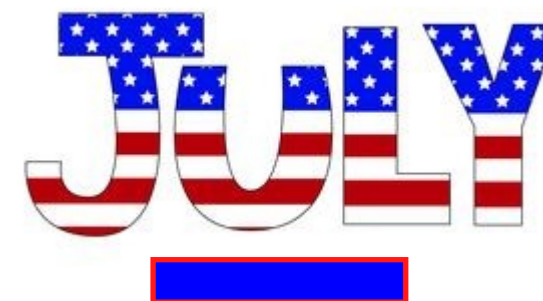
UPCOMING JULY SERVICES

July 7th, Non-Communion (4th Sunday after Pentecost)

July 14th, Communion (5th Sunday after Pentecost)

July 21st, Matins, Non-Communion (6th Sunday after Pentecost)

July 28th, Non-Communion (7th Sunday after Pentecost)



OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW JESUS
Bible Study 9:00 AM
Sunday Morning Service 11:00 AM

First St. John's Lutheran Church
140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597

JULY 2019

CHURCH OFFICE
Phone Number 717-843-8597

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
Bible Study- 9:00 am. Morning Worship-11:00 am. The fifth Sunday of the month (months with five Sundays) will be a Prayer and Preaching Service.	1 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	2	3	4 Independence Day N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	5	6
7 3rd Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	8 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	9	10	11 N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	12	13 Harvest of Blessing Board Mtg. 1:30-3:30 pm
14 4th Sunday after Pentecost C/ Green	15 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	16	17	18 CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING 5:30 PM N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	19	20
21 5th Sunday after Pentecost NC/ Green	22 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	23	24	25 N. A. Mtg. 6:30 pm	26	27
28 6th Sunday after Pentecost C/ Green	29 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	30	31	ALTAR GUILD Carla Allison		SPECIAL MISSIONS OFFERINGS JULY American Bible Society

ALTAR FLOWERS-\$35 per Sunday (Share a Sunday-1 vase \$ 18).

July 14, 21, 28

August 4th, 18th, 25th

September through December.

Please contact Nancy Hildebrand at (717) 292-4113 for the dates that are available and to schedule a date/s]



READINGS-Old Testament and Epistle-OPEN DATES

June through December



Coffee Hour-Open Dates

Looking for people for September through December

No coffee hour during July and August



If you would like to volunteer for the Readings or Coffee Hour please use the sign-up sheets on the bulletin board in the hallway.



STEWARDSHIP: JULY 2019

Whenever the topic of stewardship and giving comes up, the conversation inevitably turns to the question: "How much should I give?" Answers will vary because the motive behind such questions also vary.

Sometimes the motive behind asking this question is for self-justification. Even though, as Lutherans, we know we are not saved by our works but by grace through faith because of Jesus' substitutionary atonement, the natural religion of fallen man is to earn God's favor by what we do.

Take, for example, the response of our Lord to the rich young ruler who asked, "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" Jesus first tells him to keep the commandments. The rich young ruler responds by indicating that all this he has kept from his youth. But Jesus tells him that he lacks one thing: He must sell all he has and give it to the poor and then follow Him.

This rich young ruler went away sad because he was quite wealthy and could not part with his possessions. Here we see that those who seek to justify themselves by their giving will hear a response that intensifies the duty that God places upon them. Indeed, they will hear a response that makes it impossible to win God's favor by their works.

But to those who genuinely desire to know their duty as Christians in the arena of giving, we look to the Bible for our answer. We believe the Bible is the Word of God. And we know that the Word of God has been "breathed out by God and profitable for teaching, for reproof, for correction, and for training in righteousness, that the man of God may be complete, equipped for every good work" (2 Tim. 3:16–17).

So, we begin to answer the question, "What should I give?" with the question, "What does the Bible say about how much we should give and to whom?"

The Old Testament is explicit. The expectation is that the people of God would give a tithe – 10 percent – of the first fruits of their labor to support the full-time ministry of the Levites. This is what the Lord gave Moses to teach the people:

"You shall tithe all the yield of your seed that comes from the field year by year. And before the Lord your God, in the place that he will choose, to make his name dwell there, you shall eat the tithe of your grain, of your wine, and of your oil, and the firstborn of your herd and flock, that you may learn to fear the Lord your God always.

"And if the way is too long for you, so that you are not able to carry the tithe, when the Lord your God blesses you, because the place is too far from you, which the Lord your God chooses, to set his name there, then you shall turn it into money and bind up the money in your hand and go to the place that the Lord your God chooses and spend the money for whatever you desire – oxen or sheep or wine or strong drink, whatever your appetite craves.

"And you shall eat there before the Lord your God and rejoice, you and your household. And you shall not neglect the Levite who is within your towns, for he has no portion or inheritance with you.

"At the end of every three years you shall bring out all the tithe of your produce in the same year and lay it up within your towns. And the Levite, because he has no portion or inheritance with you, and the sojourner, the fatherless, and the widow, who are within your towns, shall come and eat and be filled, that the Lord your God may bless you in all the work of your hands that you do." (Deut. 14:22–29)

This principle of tithing is carried over into the New Testament, though not explicitly by calling it a tithe. St. Paul teaches the Church at Corinth the following:

We are to give to the church regularly (1 Cor. 16:1–2), proportionally (1 Cor. 16:1–2; 2 Cor. 8:12), and generously (2 Cor. 8:20) of our first fruits (1 Cor. 16:1–2; Gen. 4:4; Prov. 3:9; Lev. 27:30) with a spirit of eagerness (2 Cor. 9:2), earnestness (2 Cor. 8:7), cheerfulness (2 Cor. 9:7), and love (2 Cor. 8:23). And all of this is because the "Lord has ordained that those who preach the Gospel should make their living by the Gospel" (1 Cor. 9:14), just as the Levites did.

This is our New Testament standard. Since Christ became poor for us in order to make us rich in Him – blessing us with the riches of heaven – so we have also been so blessed to follow the example of our Lord and Savior and give of ourselves and the work of our hands to bless others with the same.

If we have been lax in this, let us, like our Lord, who for the joy set before Him endured the cross and scorned its shame, likewise begin to work toward this goal of regular giving of a generous proportion of the first fruits of God's giving to us.

And let us do so not begrudgingly, but for the joy set before us – with a spirit of eagerness, cheerfulness, and love – to share the blessings of God with those placed into our care.



Bonnie Abendschoen

138 Crown Pointe Drive
York, PA 17402

Birthday--September 30th

Joyce Devan

2408 Lovegren Court
York, PA 17404

Birthday--February 20th

Dawn Frey

382 West North Street
York, PA 17401

Birthday--April 21st



Bill Hildebrand

3530 Fox Run Road
Dover, PA 17315

Birthday--September 17th

Gloria Whitekettle

2361 Log Cabin Road
York, PA 17408

Birthday--November 23rd

Ruth Hermann

Lutheran Home Skilled Care
Room 404A

1801 Gladfelter Circle
York, PA 17404

Birthday--Feb 11th

If you are aware of any changes with those on the list please contact the church office.

We encourage you to drop a card or letter to our shut-ins to let them know that they are missed and a valued member of the congregation.





PRAYERS

Ruthetta Fogle
Christians especially in the Middle East– persecuted
Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving
Becky Lupp
Angie Linebaugh
Susan Null-Cancer
Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home
Marianne DeModena-Cancer
Patti Tripp-COPD
Brenton Allen-Needs new kidney and pancreas
Olivia Stankiewicz-Healing (Grand-daughter of Brian and Maria Stankiewicz)
Beth Smith
Anna vanDyk
Bill Hildebrand
Julia
Pastor Jay Mazikas (nephew of Sylvia Barclay)- Severe Headaches
Nancy Hildebrand
Rich Holen-Serious health problems (Son-In-Law) of Sylvia Barclay
Linda Mumford-Health issues
Marge Driskell-Health issues
Kathy Butts Oster-Health issues

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

Shannon Schwartzman-Health issues
Marguerite Beck-Health issues

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen Dawn Frey Joyce Devan Gloria Whitekettle
Bill Hildebrand Ruth Hermann

LEADERS

Church Pastor, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Nzinski, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Koontz, Pastor Merrell, Pastor Banach, Pastor Robertson, Pastor Schaefer. Sally Hiller, David Maack. District President John Denninger

PRAISE AND THANKSGIVING

For all of God's Gifts
Norma Null

SPIRITUAL NEEDS

For all those who do not know Jesus as Lord
For our "action" committees/task forces
Our Community and Families

We remember in prayer those who are in need of God's special presence in their lives due to special needs:



Birthdays this month

JULY



1st - Nancy Hildebrand
9th - Linda Billet
12th - David Myers
20th – Ernesto Mercado
23rd - Carla Allison
28th - Alvin (Fred) Markey II
30th - Kristin Summers



Please Note - On the 1st Sunday service of the month the birthdays for the month will be read. The Birthdays for the current month will be posted on the bulletin board

Early August Birthdays

1st - Christina Lin
1st - Breana Wilson
6th - Norma Null
9th - Marguerite Beck

PRAYER LIST (cont.)

MILITARY

Kevin Kuhn	U.S.C.G.
Lindsay Wood	U.S.A.F.
Dakota Kaufman	U. S. Army in Kuwait
Matthew Holland	U. S. Army
Chuck Barrows	U. S. Army
Megan Messersmith	U.S.A.F.
Krista McKenzie	U.S.A.F.
Jonathan Cosgrove	U.S.M.C.
James Bova	U. S. Navy
Dylan Moynihan	U. S. Navy
Tyr Abendschoen	U. S. Army



POLICE

Jonathan
Jason Berger



FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS

DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD

**to First St. John's Lutheran Church
140 W. King St., York, PA 17401**

EVERY MONDAY

From 9:00 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church

DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM



COFFEE CUPS / DEER TRACKS are for sale. The cups have our church name on them and the deer tracks are a painted wooden cutout of the church. Call or leave a message on the church phone-(717) 843-8597.

Coffee cups are \$6.00

Deer tracks are \$12.00.



Women's Care Center
Pregnant?

WOMEN'S CARE CENTER

formerly Pregnancy & Family Resource Center

40 South Richland Avenue

York, PA 17404

Phone: (717) 854-6285

