

FIRST ST. JOHN’S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



Website: [www.firststjohns.com](http://www.firststjohns.com)

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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO



# PARISH VISITOR

Monthly  
  
Newsletter



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

V 53 ISSUE 5Website: [www.firststjohns.org](http://www.firststjohns.org)MAY 2021





## SUNDAY WORSHIP

BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM

SERVICE 11:00 AM

"Till all have heard! Thanks be to God!"

### 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 (Suspended)

OUR WEBSITE ADDRESS:

[www.firststjohns.org](http://www.firststjohns.org)

### 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](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)

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

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### 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](mailto: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](mailto:firststjohns@verizon.net)



GET IN TOUCH

### STEWARDSHIP-MAY 2021

St. Paul teaches us: "Let the one who is taught the word share all good things with the one who teaches" (Gal. 6:6). And again, he says: "Do you not know that those who are employed in the temple service get their food from the temple, and those who serve at the altar share in the sacrificial offerings? In the same way, the Lord commanded that those who proclaim the gospel should get their living by the gospel" (1 Cor. 9:13-14). In other words, ministers of the Gospel are supported by the offerings of those who are served by them.

And this is how the church lives even now. It is standard practice. But this deserves closer examination. For it instructs us not just *that* we are to give but also *what* we are to give. And it does so with four little words: "In the same way ..."

St. Paul is building his case for supporting the preachers of the Gospel with the sacrificial giving of individual members on the example of the Old Testament people who supported the Levites with their offerings and sacrifices. We're to support the Gospel ministry "in the same way." But how did the Old Testament people support the Levites?

Moses records this: "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" (Deut. 14:22-23). The Levites were supported by the tithe, 10 percent of all the yearly yield of that which was harvested.

Does that seem like a lot? Does it surprise you that St. Paul instructs us that we are to support the New Testament Gospel ministry "in the same way?" If it does, ask yourself: Is the church's job in the New Testament bigger or smaller than the Levites' job in the Old Testament? Back then, there was one Temple, and the ministry was almost exclusively located in one nation among the descendants of Abraham. In Matthew 28, Jesus calls us to teach and baptize all nations, and there are churches and ministries all around the world! How could we support this new Gospel ministry with anything less than the Israelites supported the Old Testament ministry?

Of course, we are free to give more, for we have received more than those in the Old Testament. We have received the fullness of God's revelation, the fullness of His salvation, and the fulfillment of everything that God promised to do. For we have received Christ, God's own Son, in the flesh, who took upon himself our sins and in exchange gave us his righteousness. The Father claimed us as his own in Holy Baptism. He gathers us together in the place where his name dwells to feast on the first fruits of the resurrection, the risen and living body and blood of His Son – our Lord Jesus. He reminds us that we are His, that all things are ours because we belong to Him. He blesses us here in time with physical and spiritual gifts.

In the same way – and in response to His fatherly divine goodness and mercy – we gladly give to those who proclaim to us "the excellencies of him who called us out of darkness and into his marvelous light." For once we were not a people, but now we are God's people; once we had not received mercy, but now we have indeed (1 Peter 2:9-10).



STEWARDSHIP  
Managing God's Gifts To Us

### VISITATION OF MARY TO ELIZABETH

LUKE 1:44. FOR  
INDEED, AS SOON AS  
THE VOICE OF YOUR  
GREETING SOUNDED  
IN MY EARS, THE  
BABE LEAPED IN MY  
WOMB FOR JOY.







## Music & Worship Notes



I would like to apologize to Pierre-Paul, Quitau, and Ding for missing them in my article thanking the people that provided the meals for our mid-week Lenten suppers. So, **THANK YOU**. The Chinese food was great!

The month of May is filled with many special worship opportunities. When you look at a church calendar, you see that Ascension, Pentecost, and Holy Trinity are listed in this year's May calendar. When you look at a regular calendar, you see that May brings Mother's Day and Memorial Day.

We will be celebrating the days, mentioned above, in one way or another. The order in which the special days would be celebrated is as follows: Mother's Day, Ascension Day, Pentecost, Holy Trinity, and Memorial Day. We have always celebrated Memorial Day on the last Sunday of May rather than on the 31<sup>st</sup>, the real day. This year, the last Sunday is also the Holy Trinity. We will focus on The Holy Trinity as the theme for the last Sunday of May this year.

The other special days listed on the church calendar are: the Visitation of Mary to Elizabeth and the remembrance of St. Philip and St. James. You may read more about these elsewhere in this edition of the newsletter.



**Ken Sanders,  
Minister of Music**

### THE ADULT CHOIR:

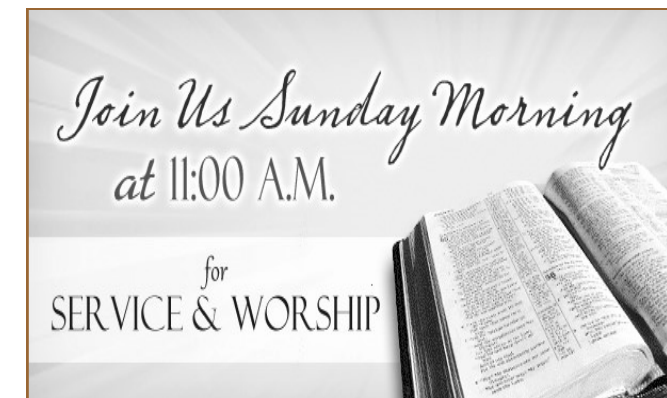
Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger,  
Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh,  
Ding Wang,



### Scripture of the Month

Acts 2: **Coming of the Holy Spirit**

- <sup>1</sup> When the Day of Pentecost had fully come, they were all with one accord in one place.
- <sup>2</sup> And suddenly there came a sound from heaven, as of a rushing mighty wind, and it filled the whole house where they were sitting.
- <sup>3</sup> Then there appeared to them divided tongues, as of fire, and *one* sat upon each of them.
- <sup>4</sup> And they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak with other tongues, as the Spirit gave them utterance.



## Bible Study

9:00 AM

**MAY 2021  
PARISH VISITOR**

**JUNE 2021 DEADLINE**

**Articles Due**

**Friday, 21st**

**Mail Date**

**Thursday, 27th**

**Newsletter**

### MEETINGS IN MAY

**Worship Committee**

**Church Council**

**Future Committee**

**To be announced**

**13th (Thursday)**

**1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month**



### UPCOMING MAY 2021 SERVICES

- May 2, Communion (Fifth Sunday of Easter)  
 May 9, Non-Communion (Sixth Sunday of Easter)  
 May 16, Communion (Seventh Sunday of Easter)  
 May 23, Non-Communion (The Day of Pentecost)  
 May 30, Non-Communion (The Holy Trinity)

**MAY**

**Sunday<sup>+</sup>  
Services**



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

CHURCH OFFICE  
Phone Number 717-843-8597

MAY 2021

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						<b>1</b>
<b>2</b> Fifth Sunday of Easter C/ White	<b>3</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> Future Com.Mtg. 9am Adult Choir 6:30 pm	<b>6</b>	<b>7</b>	<b>8</b> H.O.B. Board Mtg. 2:30 pm
<b>9</b> Sixth Sunday of Easter MOTHER'S DAY NC/ White	<b>10</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> Adult Choir 6:30 pm	<b>13</b> CHURCH COUNCIL MEETING. 6:00 PM	<b>14</b>	<b>15</b>
<b>16</b> The Ascension of Our Lord C/ White	<b>17</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b> Future Com.Mtg. 9am Adult Choir 6:30 pm	<b>20</b>	<b>21</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>23</b> The Day of Pentecost NC/ Red	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b> Adult Choir 6:30 pm	<b>27</b>	<b>28</b>	<b>29</b>
<b>30</b> The Holy Trinity NC/ White	<b>31</b> MEMORIAL DAY	LAY READER	USHER	ALTAR GUILD Carla Allison		



Pregnant?

**WOMEN'S CARE CENTER**

Formerly Pregnancy & Family Resource Center


40 South Richland Avenue

York, PA 17404



Phone: (717) 854-6285

**FIRST ST. JOHN'S MEMBERS AND GUESTS**

WE WELCOME AND ENCOURAGE YOU.  
ENJOY OUR "LIVE" WORSHIP.



Welcome  
to Our Church



**FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS**

**DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD**



**to First St. John's Lutheran Church**

**140 W. King St., York, PA 17401**

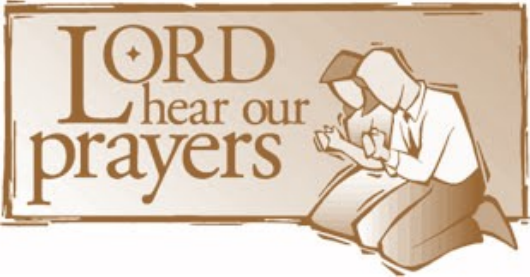
**EVERY MONDAY**

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

**DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM**







PRAYERS

Ruthetta Fogle  
Christians especially in the Middle East– persecuted  
Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving  
Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home  
Joyce Devan-Health issues  
Ruth Strathmeyer-Health issues  
Kim Thompson-Health issues  
Susan vanDyk-Baum  
Ed Hanes (Nancy Hildebrand’s brother)-Health issues  
Philip Rogers-Health issues  
Bruce Blankenstein-Wife’s Health issues  
Kathy Shoff (Friend of Sylvia Barclay)-Health issues

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen  
Joyce Devan  
Dawn Frey

LEADERS

Church Pastor, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Nzinski, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Seifferlein (Replaced Adam 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

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

MAY



1st - Daniel Stambaugh  
10th - Rodney Billet  
29th - Rebecca Taylor

Please Note - On the 1<sup>st</sup> 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 June Birthdays

4th - Willard Starner, Sr.  
10th - Jaime Rohrbaugh

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



Bonnie Abendschoen

138 Crown Pointe Drive  
York, PA 17402

Dawn Frey

382 West North Street  
York, PA 17401

Joyce Devan

2408 Lovegren Court  
York, PA 17404

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.

PRAY FOR OUR SHUT-INS

The next three months (April-June) Alms collection will go towards the church assistance program. Gift cards are acceptable.

The first quarter Alms \$152.49 will be given to Veterans Helping Hands



Trinity Sunday

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost to honor the Holy Trinity—the Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Although the word “trinity” does not appear in Scripture, it is taught in Matthew 28:18-20 and 2 Corinthians 13:14 (and many other biblical passages). The concept of the trinity can never be completely understood or rationalized, but it is clearly taught in Scripture. Understanding of all scriptural doctrine is by faith which comes through the work of the Holy Spirit; therefore, it is appropriate that this mystery is celebrated the first Sunday after Pentecost, when the outpouring of the Holy Spirit first occurred.

On Trinity Sunday, the Christian Church ponders with joy and thanksgiving what the Father, Son and Holy Spirit have done to accomplish the salvation of sinful humanity. It is brought to remembrance how Christians should respond to the love God has shown us, praising Him and giving Him glory. We remember the Father as our Creator, the Son as our Savior and the Holy Spirit as our Comforter. Scriptural readings for the Trinity Sunday ceremony may include Psalm 8, beginning and ending with, “O Lord, our Lord, how majestic is your name in all the earth.” Second Corinthians 13:11-13 appeals to believers to aim for perfection and live in peace, ending with the prayer that the grace of Christ Jesus, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with all, including again the commission Jesus left for believers in Matthew 28:16-20.

Today, Trinity Sunday is to explain, to the best of man’s ability, the clues written in Scripture to guide us to a fuller understanding of our triune God. The Father is God from the beginning (John 1:1); Jesus revealed Himself as equal to the Father in John 10:30, “I and the Father are one.” Together, they sent the Holy Spirit (John 14:26). “Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit” (Matthew 28:19).





# ST PHILIP & ST JAMES

Apostles

1st May



Philip and James appear in the list of the twelve apostles in the first three gospels but are frequently confused with other early saints who share their names. In John's gospel, Philip has a more prominent role, being the third of the apostles to be called by Jesus and then himself bringing his friend Nathanael to the Lord. Philip is the spokesman for the other apostles who question the capacity for feeding the five thousand and, at the Last Supper, he enters into a dialogue with Jesus which leads to the farewell discourse of our Lord.

James is said to be the son of Alphæus and is often known as 'James the Less' to distinguish him. He may also be the 'James the Younger' whose mother, in Mark's gospel, is a witness at the crucifixion.

They are celebrated on the same day because the church in Rome, where their relics were laid to rest, was dedicated on this day in the year 560.

## Collect for St Philip & St James's Day

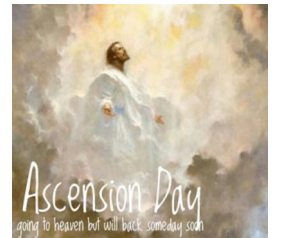
Almighty Father,  
whom truly to know is eternal life:  
teach us to know your Son Jesus Christ  
as the way, the truth, and the life;  
that we may follow the steps  
of your holy apostles Philip and James,  
and walk steadfastly in the way that leads to your glory;  
Amen



**Ascension Day** is one of the earliest Christian festivals, dating back to the year 68. According to the New Testament in the Bible, Jesus Christ met several times with his disciples during the 40 days after his resurrection to instruct them on how to carry out his teachings. It is believed that on the 40th day he took them to the Mount of Olives, where they watched as he ascended to heaven.

Ascension Day marks the end of the Easter season and occurs ten days before Pentecost. Depending upon the phases of the Moon in a particular year, Ascension Day is celebrated on a Thursday. However, some churches, particularly in the United States, celebrate it on the following Sunday.

Many Eastern Orthodox churches [calculate the date](#) of *Pascha* (Easter) according to the Julian calendar, rather than the Gregorian calendar used by many western churches, so their Ascension Day usually occurs after the western observance.



## Pentecost Sunday

Believed to be the oldest feast in the Church, the story of Pentecost dates back to the first century A.D. The feast of Pentecost coincided with the Jewish Feast of Weeks, which occurs 50 days after the Passover (Deuteronomy 16:10). According to Jewish tradition, the Ten Commandments were given to Moses 50 days after the first Passover, which freed the Hebrews from their bondage in Egypt. As the Hebrews settled into Canaan, the feast became a time to honor the Lord for blessing the fruits of their labors. At the time of Jesus, the festival focused on rabbinical law and traditions. Since this Jewish holiday took place at the same time of the Pentecost, many Jewish Christians appropriated its celebration into their Christian commemoration of the coming of the Spirit.



## Pentecost Traditions

There are many Pentecost traditions. In some churches, baptisms are performed throughout the day. Pentecost is also known as Whitsunday, because of the white garments worn by those who are baptized. In most Pentecost services, priests or church officials wear red vestments. Sanctuaries are decorated with banners depicting flames, wind, and doves. Churches in Italy disperse rose petals from the ceiling to symbolize the tongues of fire described in the Book of Acts. French churches blow trumpets throughout the service to suggest the Holy Spirit coming with a violent rushing wind. Many of the Pentecost videos display the power and significance of these early signs of the Holy Spirit. Both Catholic and Protestant services have Scripture readings from the books of Isaiah, Ezekiel, Joel, or Acts.

