

FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

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



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THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO

PARISH VISITOR

VOL 54-ISSUE 5

Website: www.firststjohns.org

MAY 2022





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

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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SUNDAY SERVICES

Communion and Non-Communion, Services are held during the month, 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



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



Psalm 19:14

Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart, be acceptable in thy sight, O LORD, my strength, and my redeemer.

Romans 5:8

But God demonstrates his own love for us in this: While we were still sinners, Christ died for us.

Hebrew 12:2

Let us fix our eyes on Jesus, the author and perfecter of our faith, who for the joy set before him endured the cross, scorning its shame, and sat down at the right hand of the throne of God.

Joshua 1:9

"Have I not commanded you? Be strong and courageous. Do not be afraid; do not be discouraged, for the LORD your God will be with you wherever you go."

Proverbs 22:6

Train up a child in the way he should go: and when he is old, he will not depart from it.



STEWARDSHIP-MAY 2022



STEWARDSHIP

Managing God's Gifts To Us

Living Sacrifices

Stewardship is not just about giving money to the church. It includes this, to be sure, but it is not limited to it. Stewardship involves our whole life – everything we have and everything we are.

Let us not, though, fall into the trap of thinking that because we give of ourselves in one area then we can neglect giving in another. Stewardship is not stealing from Peter to pay Paul. It is not a game that we play whereby we justify ourselves in not giving a tenth of our income because we have given in some other way.

This is why our Lord warns: “Woe to you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! For you tithe mint and dill and cumin and have neglected the weightier matters of the law: justice and mercy and faithfulness. These you ought to have done, without neglecting the others.” (Matthew 23:23) We are given to do both – tithe of ourselves and what we have.

And so it is that St. Paul makes his appeal to us: “I appeal to you therefore, brothers, by the mercies of God, to present your bodies as a living sacrifice, holy and acceptable to God, which is your spiritual worship. Do not be conformed to this world, but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that by testing you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and acceptable and perfect.” (Romans 12:1–2)

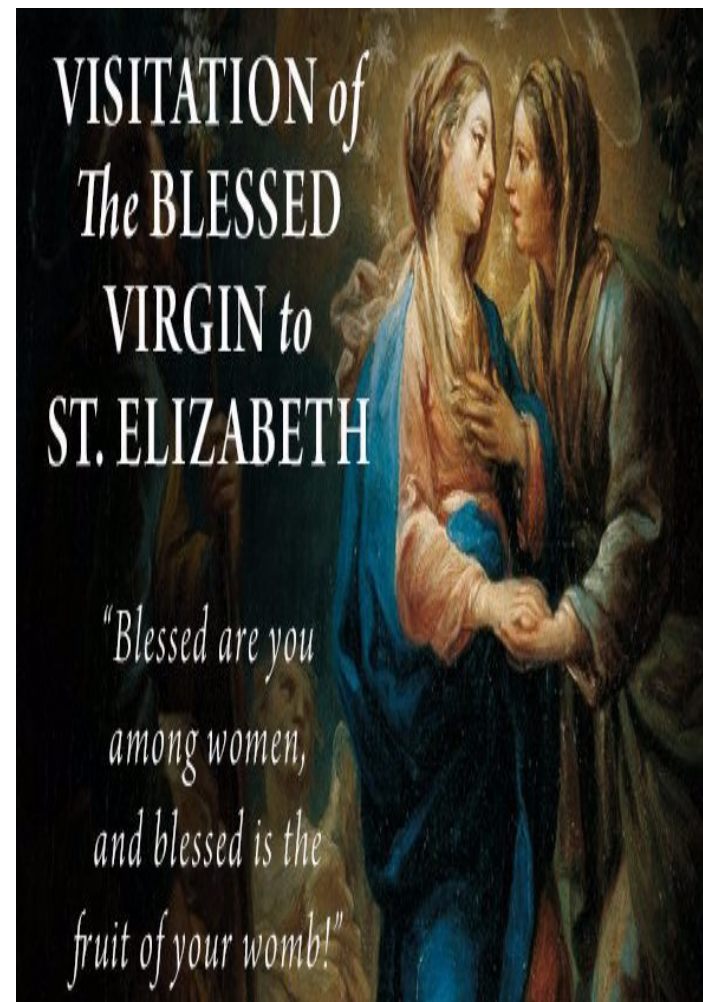
We are to present our bodies as a living sacrifice to God. We are not to have the mind of the world, where we exchange equal weight of this for an equal weight of that and think that we have done what God has required. Our whole life is given over for service in and for the Church of God. This is to be done in thanksgiving for what God in Christ has accomplished for us. This is our spiritual worship, the reasonable response to what He has done for us. Not one for the other but all in all.

But what does this look like? St. Paul never lays down a general principle without also giving us some practical application of what shape that principle is to take concretely. He gives the general principle that our bodies are to be living sacrifices to God. And, after admonishing those who have been given particular gifts of grace to serve the church, St. Paul then speaks generally of what is expected of all. He says:

“Let love be genuine. Abhor what is evil; hold fast to what is good. Love one another with brotherly affection. Outdo one another in showing honor. Do not be slothful in zeal, be fervent in spirit, serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope, be patient in tribulation, be constant in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints and seek to show hospitality.” (Romans 12:9–13)

This is what it looks like to present your bodies as living sacrifices. This is how we live out the grace of God here in time.

Let us then heed the apostle's teaching. Let us present our bodies – everything that we have and everything that we are – as living sacrifices to God, our reasonable response to what God in Christ Jesus accomplished for us by His death and resurrection. Through this, we have forgiveness of sins, a new life in Christ, and eternal salvation. And through this worship, the grace of God is made manifest in His saints – for the church and the world.



Bible Study



9:00 AM

MAY 2022 PARISH VISITOR

JUNE 2022 DEADLINE

Articles Due

Friday, May 20th

Send Date

Thursday, May 26th

Newsletter

MEETINGS IN MAY

Worship Committee

Church Council

Meetings will be announced

10th at 6:00 pm



UPCOMING MAY 2022 SERVICES

May 1st-Communion (Third Sunday of Easter)

May 8th-Non-Communion (Fourth Sunday of Easter)

May 15th-Communion (Fifth Sunday of Easter)

May 22nd-Non-Communion (Sixth Sunday of Easter)

May 29th Non-Communion (Seventh Sunday of Easter)

MAY



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 2022

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
1 3rd Sunday of Easter C / White	2 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	3	4 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	5	6	7
8 4th Sunday of Easter Mother's Day NC / White	9 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am CHURCH COUNCIL MTG. 6:00 PM	10	11 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	12	13	14
15 5th Sunday of Easter C / White	16 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	17	18 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	19	20	21
22 6th Sunday of Easter NC / White	23 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	24	25 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	26 Ascension Day	27	28
29 7th Sunday of Easter NC / White	30 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am Memorial Day	31				
		LAY READER Jane Abendschoen	USHER Bill Lupp	ALTAR GUILD Carla Allison		

Many Northern states held similar commemorative events and reprised the tradition in subsequent years; by 1890 each one had made Decoration Day an official state holiday. Southern states, on the other hand, continued to honor the dead on separate days until after [World War I](#).

History of Memorial Day

Memorial Day, as Decoration Day gradually came to be known, originally honored only those lost while fighting in the Civil War. But during World War I the United States found itself embroiled in another major conflict, and the holiday evolved to commemorate American military personnel who died in all wars, including [World War II](#), [The Vietnam War](#), [The Korean War](#) and the wars in [Iraq](#) and [Afghanistan](#).

For decades, Memorial Day continued to be observed on May 30, the date General Logan had selected for the first Decoration Day. But in 1968, Congress passed the Uniform Monday Holiday Act, which established Memorial Day as the last Monday in May in order to create a three-day weekend for federal employees. The change went into effect in 1971. The same law also declared Memorial Day a federal holiday.

Memorial Day Traditions

Cities and towns across the United States host Memorial Day parades each year, often incorporating military personnel and members of veterans’ organizations. Some of the largest parades take place in [Chicago](#), [New York](#) and [Washington, D.C.](#)

Americans also observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries and memorials. Some people wear a red poppy in remembrance of those fallen in war—a tradition that [began with a World War I poem](#). On a less somber note, many people take weekend trips or throw parties and barbecues on the holiday, perhaps because Memorial Day weekend—the long weekend comprising the Saturday and Sunday before Memorial Day and Memorial Day itself—unofficially marks the beginning of summer.





MEMORIAL DAY



HISTORY.COM EDITORS

UPDATED: MAR 14, 2022 ORIGINAL: OCT 27, 2009

Memorial Day is an American holiday, observed on the last Monday of May, honoring the men and women who died while serving in the U.S. military. Memorial Day 2022 will occur on Monday, May 30.

Originally known as Decoration Day, it originated in the years following the Civil War and became an official federal holiday in 1971. Many Americans observe Memorial Day by visiting cemeteries or memorials, holding family gatherings and participating in parades. Unofficially, it marks the beginning of the summer season.

Early Observances of Memorial Day

The [Civil War](#), which ended in the spring of 1865, claimed more lives than any conflict in U.S. history and required the establishment of the country's first national cemeteries.

By the late 1860s, Americans in various towns and cities had begun holding springtime tributes to these countless fallen soldiers, decorating their graves with flowers and reciting prayers.

It is unclear where exactly this tradition originated; numerous different communities may have independently initiated the memorial gatherings. And some records show that one of the earliest Memorial Day commemorations [was organized](#) by a group of formerly enslaved people in Charleston, South Carolina less than a month after the [Confederacy](#) surrendered in 1865. Nevertheless, in 1966 the federal government declared Waterloo, [New York](#), the official [birthplace of Memorial Day](#).

Waterloo—which first celebrated the day on May 5, 1866—was chosen because it hosted an annual, community-wide event, during which businesses closed and residents decorated the graves of soldiers with flowers and flags.

Decoration Day

On May 5, 1868, General John A. Logan, leader of an organization for Northern Civil War veterans, called for a nationwide day of remembrance later that month. “The 30th of May, 1868, is designated for the purpose of strewing with flowers, or otherwise decorating the graves of comrades who died in defense of their country during the late rebellion, and whose bodies now lie in almost every city, village and hamlet churchyard in the land,” he proclaimed.

The date of [Decoration Day](#), as he called it, was chosen because it wasn't the anniversary of any particular battle.

On the first Decoration Day, General [James Garfield](#) made a speech at [Arlington National Cemetery](#), and 5,000 participants decorated the graves of the 20,000 Civil War soldiers buried there.

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

Kim Thompson
30 South Beaver Street
York, PA 17401

Norma Null
2235 Middle Street
York, PA 17408

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.

ASCENSION DAY

1. Jesus told his disciples he must leave so that they (and us) can receive the Holy Spirit
2. After 40 days Jesus was resurrected and ascended into Heaven
3. Then two angels appeared and said that Jesus will come back in the same way he left

ACTS 1: 1-12

<https://www.jesustomyrescue.com>



Mother's Day

Mother's Day is a holiday honoring motherhood that is observed in different forms throughout the world. In the United States, Mother's Day 2022 will occur on Sunday, May 8. The American incarnation of Mother's Day was created by Anna Jarvis in 1908 and became an official U.S. holiday in 1914. Jarvis would later denounce the holiday's commercialization and spent the latter part of her life trying to remove it from the calendar. While dates and celebrations vary, Mother's Day traditionally involves presenting moms with flowers, cards and other gifts.

History of Mother's Day

Celebrations of mothers and motherhood can be traced back to the [ancient Greeks](#) and Romans, who held festivals in honor of the mother goddesses Rhea and Cybele, but the clearest modern precedent for Mother's Day is the early Christian festival known as "Mothering Sunday."

Once a major tradition in the United Kingdom and parts of Europe, this celebration fell on the fourth Sunday in Lent and was originally seen as a time when the faithful would return to their "mother church"—the main church in the vicinity of their home—for a special service.

Over time the Mothering Sunday tradition shifted into a more secular holiday, and children would present their mothers with flowers and other tokens of appreciation. This custom eventually faded in popularity before merging with the American Mother's Day in the 1930s and 1940s.

Ann Reeves Jarvis and Julia Ward Howe

The origins of Mother's Day as celebrated in the United States date back to the 19th century. In the years before the [Civil War](#), Ann Reeves Jarvis of [West Virginia](#) helped start "Mothers' Day Work Clubs" to teach local women how to properly care for their children.

These clubs later became a unifying force in a region of the country still divided over the Civil War. In 1868 Jarvis organized "Mothers' Friendship Day," at which mothers gathered with former Union and Confederate soldiers to promote reconciliation.

Another precursor to Mother's Day came from the abolitionist and suffragette [Julia Ward Howe](#). In 1870 Howe wrote the "Mother's Day Proclamation," a call to action that asked mothers to unite in promoting world peace. In 1873 Howe campaigned for a "Mother's Peace Day" to be celebrated every June 2.

Other early Mother's Day pioneers include Juliet Calhoun Blakely, a [temperance](#) activist who inspired a local Mother's Day in Albion, [Michigan](#), in the 1870s. The duo of Mary Towles Sasseen and Frank Hering, meanwhile, both worked to organize a Mothers' Day in the late 19th and early 20th centuries. Some have even called Hering "the father of Mothers' Day."

Anna Jarvis Turns Mother's Day Into a National Holiday

The official Mother's Day holiday arose in the 1900s as a result of the efforts of [Anna Jarvis](#), daughter of Ann Reeves Jarvis. Following her mother's 1905 death, Anna Jarvis conceived of Mother's Day as a way of honoring the sacrifices mothers made for their children.

Please consider a donation to this organization



April 18, 2022

First St John's Lutheran Church
140 West King Street
York, PA 17401

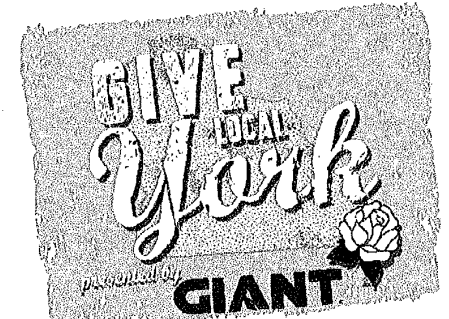
Dear First St John's Lutheran Church,

Harvest of Blessing is participating in this year's Give Local York Day of Giving and we need your help! **Please consider donating to our organization on Friday, May 6, 2022.**

Founded in 2004, Harvest of Blessing steps up to help the City of York and give people hope for a brighter future in Christ Jesus. With the generous support of many businesses and individuals, we provide food, clothing, and household supplies to those in need on a weekly basis. Throughout the year, we also hold special events for families including back-to-school backpack & supply giveaway, Thanksgiving Turkey Event, and our Annual Christmas Toy Giveaway. With your generous donations during this special day of giving, we will be able to continue reaching more local families in need.

Donating is easy! On May 6 from 12:00am until 11:59pm:

- Go to: www.givelocalyork.org
- Search for "Harvest of Blessing" in participating organizations
- Choose a donation amount and **donate**
- Spread the word to family and friends to donate too!



For the past 17 years Harvest of Blessing has worked to be part of the solution that provides support to families in York City, offering a helping hand to anyone in need. We would greatly appreciate your support, which will truly make a difference in the lives of so many. On behalf of myself and the many volunteers who dedicate themselves to Harvest of Blessing, we appreciate your support in fulfilling our mission: Stomping out hunger, one family at a time!

God Bless,

Jural Toby
President
Harvest of Blessing

254 West Princess Street York, PA 17401
717.808.4209 • juraltoby3@verizon.net • harvestofblessing.org



Music & Worship Notes



The whole month of May, the Sundays are listed as “Sundays of Easter.” Including Easter, there are seven Sundays of Easter. So, If you look at your calendar, you will see that the seventh Sunday of Easter is the last Sunday of May. That falls on Memorial Day weekend. The Thursday prior to that is Ascension Day. In the past we have had an Ascension Day service in the evening. In the most recent past, we have sometimes celebration the Ascension on the last Sunday of Easter.

After Pentecost, we will focus on singing the Sunday liturgy out of the LSB Hymnal instead of the music we have had printed in the bulletin. I will help to lead you through this process. We will be using a very familiar liturgy that I am sure most of you know and will remember.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU!

A big thank you to all those who provided the mid-week Lenten meals the choir, the LWML, Art Hennig, The Rodriques family, and the Stambaugh family.

Thanks goes out to those who helped to strip the altar on Maundy Thursday to prepare it for Good Friday.

Thanks to those who helped with the German Language Easter service. That includes those who were part of the actual service and those who set up and served the refreshments afterward.

Last, but not least, the choir for all their hard work in providing the special music during Lent, Good Friday, and Easter. Also for their willingness to share with our brothers and sisters at St. Paul's in Columbia on Easter.

Without God's people being willing to serve Him by serving one another, none of these worship opportunities and fellowship times would happen.

May our Lord give us the strength to continue to serve Him until He calls us home with the words, “Well done, thou good and faithful servant!”

**Ken Sanders,
Minister of Music**

THE ADULT CHOIR:

**Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger,
Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh,
George Card, Beverly Card,
Ding Wang.**



After gaining financial backing from a Philadelphia department store owner named John Wanamaker, in May 1908 she organized the first official Mother's Day celebration at a Methodist church in Grafton, West Virginia. That same day also saw thousands of people attend a Mother's Day event at one of Wanamaker's retail stores in Philadelphia.

Following the success of her first Mother's Day, Jarvis—who remained unmarried and childless her whole life—resolved to see her holiday added to the national calendar. Arguing that American holidays were biased toward male achievements, she started a massive letter writing campaign to newspapers and prominent politicians urging the adoption of a special day honoring motherhood.

By 1912 many states, towns and churches had adopted Mother's Day as an annual holiday, and Jarvis had established the Mother's Day International Association to help promote her cause. Her persistence paid off in 1914 when President [Woodrow Wilson](#) signed a measure [officially establishing](#) the second Sunday in May as Mother's Day.

Jarvis Decries Commercialized Mother's Day

Anna Jarvis had originally conceived of Mother's Day as a day of personal celebration between mothers and families. Her version of the day involved wearing a white carnation as a badge and visiting one's mother or attending church services. But once Mother's Day became a national holiday, it was not long before florists, card companies and other merchants capitalized on its popularity.

While Jarvis had initially worked with the floral industry to help raise Mother's Day's profile, by 1920 she had become disgusted with how the holiday had been commercialized. She outwardly denounced the transformation and urged people to stop buying Mother's Day flowers, cards and candies.

Jarvis eventually resorted to an open campaign against Mother's Day profiteers, speaking out against confectioners, florists and even charities. She also launched countless lawsuits against groups that had used the name “Mother's Day,” eventually spending most of her personal wealth in legal fees. By the time of her death in 1948 Jarvis had disowned the holiday altogether, and even actively lobbied the government to see it removed from the American calendar.

Mother's Day Around the World

While versions of Mother's Day are celebrated worldwide, traditions vary depending on the country. In Thailand, for example, Mother's Day is always celebrated in August on the birthday of the current queen, Sirikit.

Another alternate observance of Mother's Day can be found in Ethiopia, where families gather each fall to sing songs and eat a large feast as part of Antrosht, a multi-day celebration honoring motherhood.

In the United States, Mother's Day continues to be celebrated by presenting mothers and other women with gifts and flowers, and it has become one of the biggest holidays for consumer spending. Families also celebrate by giving mothers a day off from activities like cooking or other household chores.

At times, Mother's Day has also been a date for launching political or feminist causes. In 1968 [Coretta Scott King](#), wife of [Martin Luther King, Jr.](#), used Mother's Day to host a march in support of underprivileged women and children. In the 1970s women's groups also used the holiday as a time to highlight the need for equal rights and access to childcare.





PRAYER

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
 Bruce Blankenstein-Wife's Health issues
 Jeanne Noll-Health issue
 Ed Abendschoen-Health issues
 Nancy Hildebrand-Health Issues
 Benjamin-Grandson of Mary Homsher Health issues.
 Karl vanDyk-Health issue
 Ed Benedick-Health issue (friend of Ed Abendschoen)
 Jon Van Sliedrecht-Health issue
 Bonnie Abendschoen-Health issues
 David-Health issues (friend of Ed & Bonnie Abendschoen)
 Carl Flandermeyer-Health issues
 Karen Hildebrand-Health issues
 Fran Shoff-Health issues

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

Tom Gibson-Health issues

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen
 Joyce Devan
 Dawn Frey
 Kim Thompson

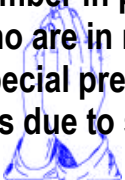
LEADERS

Vicar Geoff Abendschoen, Minister of Music Ken Sanders, Lay Leaders, Pastor Cosgrove, Pastor Zimmerman, Pastor Brasso, Pastor Seifferlein, 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
 Geoff and Jane Abendschoen
 Dan, Dave and Lois Stambaugh
 Ken Linebaugh

**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



Early June Birthdays

10th - Jaime Rohrbaugh

PRAYER LIST (cont.)

SPIRITUAL NEEDS

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



MILITARY

Sgt. Tyr Abendschoen U. S. Army



POLICE

Jonathan



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

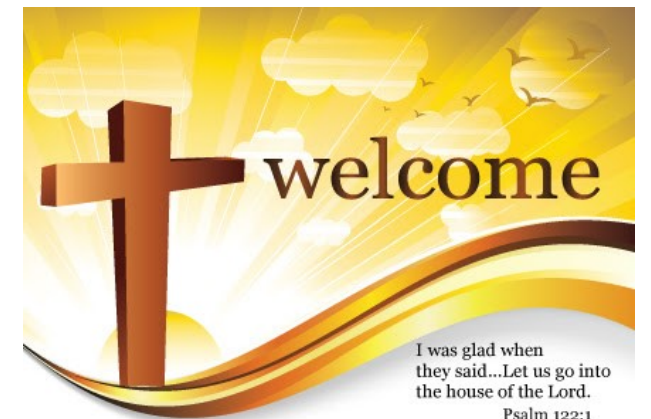
From 9:00 through 11:00 am - Pickup at the church

DOORS OPEN AT 9:00 AM



FIRST ST. JOHN'S MEMBERS AND GUESTS

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



I was glad when
 they said...Let us go into
 the house of the Lord.
 Psalm 122:1

*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

