FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

140 W. King Street York, PA 17401-1307

Phone: 717-843-8597

LUTHERAN CHURCH Misson Send

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Website: www.firststjohns.com

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

DATED MATERIAL

THE PEACE OF THE LORD TO



SUNDAY WORSHIP

BIBLE STUDY 9:00 AM

REGULAR CHURCH EVENTS AND WORSHIP

9:00 AM Bible Study Sunday -

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.

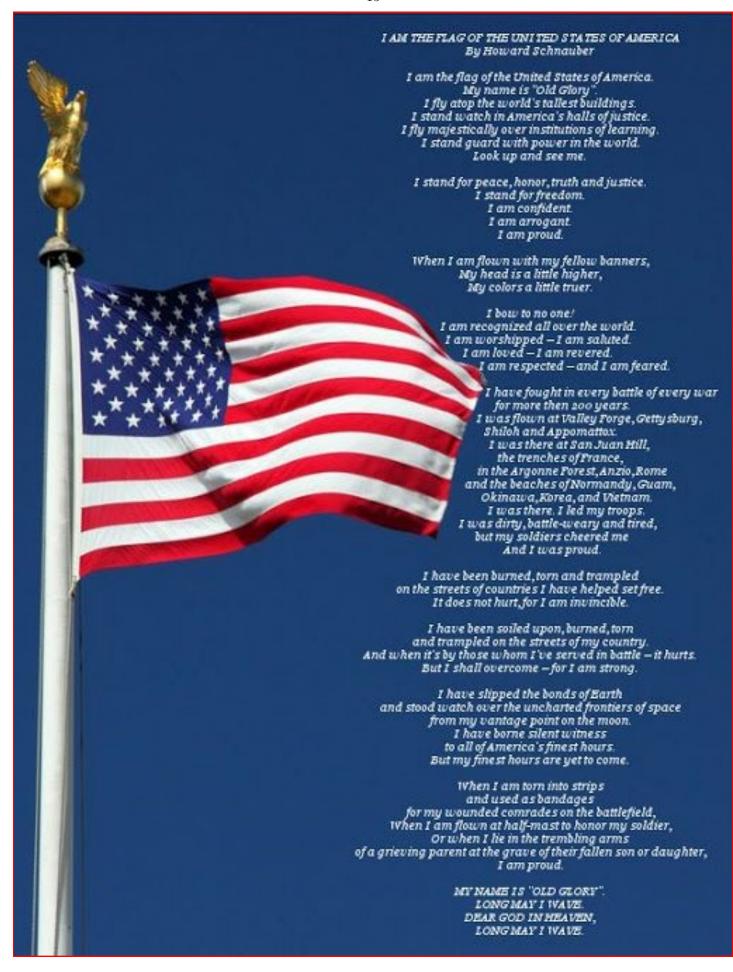
If you or someone you know is a shut-in, has an illness or is unable to worship with us due to other circumstances, please call the church office.

The church phone number is: 717-843-8597

OR

EMAIL: firststjohns@verizon.net





STEWARDSHIP-JULY 2022

NEW TESTAMENT STANDARD GIVING

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 vary also.

Sometimes the motive behind asking this question is for self-justification. Even though as Lutherans, we know that we are not saved by our works but by grace through faith because of Jesus' substitutionary atonement. Yet 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 that 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 what their duty is, as Christians, in the arena of giving, we look to the Bible for our answer. We believe that 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, that is 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." (Deuteronomy 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 this: 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), iust as the Levites did.

This 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 also have 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.



JULY

We often think of Independence Day. Fireworks. Backyard barbecues. Our freedom.

I thank God for the Country that I live in, but I have something even better...freedom in Christ and it lasts forever! LISA GORMAN







9:00 AM

JULY 2022 PARISH VISITOR

AUGUST 2022 DEADLINE

Articles Due Send Date

Friday, July 22nd Thursday, July 28th



MEETINGS IN JULY

Worship Committee Church Council

Meetings will be announced 12th at 6:00 pm



UPCOMING JULY 2022 SERVICES

July 3rd-Communion (4th Sunday after Pentecost)

July 10th-Non-Communion (5th Sunday after Pentecost)

July 17th-Communion (6th Sunday after Pentecost)

July 24th-Non-Communion (7th Sunday after Pentecost)

July 31st-Non-Communion (8th Sunday after Pentecost)





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

OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW

Sunday Morning Service

2022

Phone Number 717-843-8597

CHURCH OFFICE

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SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
					F	Ø
34 4th Sunday after Pentecost C/ Green	Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am Independence Day	Ŋ	ů.	7	o	0
5th Sunday after Pentecost NC / Green	Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	CHURCH COUNCIL MTG. 6:00 PM	13	41	15	16
6th Sunday after Pentecost C / Green	18 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	19	20	12	22	23
24 7th Sunday after Pentecost NC / Green	25 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	26	27	80	62	30
8th Sunday after Pentecost NC / Green		LAY READER Carla Allison	USHER Bill Lupp	ALTAR GUILD Carla Allison		

UNDERSTANDING THE SEASONS: ASCENSION AND PENTECOST



The Feast of the Ascension is celebrated forty days after Easter Sunday. It is always on a Thursday. Ascension Day recalls our Lord's exaltation by being taken gloriously up into heaven. After his crucifixion and resurrection, Holy Scripture tell us he was seen for forty days before he ascended into heaven to be "seated at the right hand of God the Father." After Jesus' ascension, the disciples awaited the promised gift of the Holy Spirit in Jerusalem. The color for the Feast of the Ascension is white symbolizing festival and joy. An appropriate symbol is a crown for the reign of our Lord.

The Day, or Feast, of Pentecost celebrates the day when the Holy Spirit came to the disciples as they were gathered in Jerusalem. The story of Pentecost is related in Acts 2. It is often called the "birthday of the Church" because of the new covenant with God given to all believers.

Pentecost is from the Greek word for "fiftieth day." It was the Greek name for the Hebrew Feast of Weeks, which fell 50 days after Passover. The Feast of Weeks celebrated the calling of the Hebrews into a covenant relationship with God at Mt. Sinai. The Day of Pentecost falls 50 days after Easter. Another traditional name for the Feast of Pentecost is Whitsunday. This name probably comes from the white robes worn on the day of baptism (White-Sunday). The Feast of Pentecost is one of the appropriate Sundays for Baptism.

The color for Pentecost is red symbolizing the tongues of flame that signify the Holy Spirit. Symbols are a dove, wind and tongues of fire. It is appropriate for the story in Acts 2 to be read in several languages. The congregation can be invited to wear red on Pentecost Sunday. You can also incorporate kites, pinwheels, fans, wind chimes and mobiles into the liturgy. Many churches release ladybugs at Pentecost because of the red color and their benefit to the environment.

Trinity Sunday is the first Sunday after Pentecost. It celebrates the doctrine of the Trinity, the belief that God is revealed to us as Father, Son and Spirit. The color for Trinity Sunday is white for joy. Symbols include an equilateral triangle and three interlocking circles.

The Season after Pentecost is the longest of our church seasons. These numbered weeks after the Feast of Pentecost are sometimes referred to as "Ordinary Time" because they are not associated with a particular thematic season like Advent or Lent. The Season of Pentecost begins with Trinity Sunday and ends on the last Sunday after Pentecost, which is the Sunday before Advent begins. The numbered proper to be used on each of the Sundays after Pentecost is determined by the calendar date of that Sunday The liturgical color is green symbolizing growth and fruitfulness in the Christian life.



12

THIRD QUARTER ALMS FUND RECIPIENT

Olivia's House began with the concept of "Hearts Can Heal," a program designed by Founder and Bereavement Specialist Leslie Delp, M.A. Leslie, a psychologist specializing in bereavement therapy, recognized the need children and their families had during the difficult time after the death of a loved one. From just one program facilitated in a rented space in 1996, Olivia's House has grown to offer year-round programming and services under our own roof in the city of York.

On September 30, 2002, Olivia's House purchased the property located at 830 South George Street to officially become the state's first and only independent grief center for children and teens. Like many of the houses on the block, our building was over 100 years old and in need of some serious repair. Thanks to a group of dedicated volunteers, not to mention some outstanding instances of community philanthropy, renovation work on the house began, and in September 2003, all eighteen rooms inside the house and the Healing Garden were completely repaired and furnished.

In 2007, Olivia's House was spotlighted in the thirteenth season of the award winning PBS docuseries, *The Visionaries*. Along with national exposure for our mission, Olivia's House was recognized as one of the premier grief centers in the nation!

Our Board of Directors met for a strategic planning session on a Saturday morning in 2008 to discuss the need for additional program space. It was clear that the children needed more space and that moving our offices from the third floor was necessary. As we left the meeting, the consensus was to pray for direction and reconvene at a later date. On Monday morning, the property adjoining Olivia's House had a "for sale" sign in the front yard, and by the following Saturday, we owned the new space!!!

Our in-house children's studio space, The Confessional, was designed in 2010 in cooperation with our longtime friend and Emmy award-winning director/producer, Tom Shortridge, and MTV Real World castmate, Ashlee Feldman. The Confessional is a fully equipped production studio available for our program families to utilize throughout their bereavement journey.

In 2011, two incredible angels visited Olivia's House and met with the staff to offer a remarkable gift that finally made our dream come true... a mortgage-free Olivia's House. When times were tough and the economy was challenging everyone, this special couple ensured that Olivia's House would remain a permanent fixture in York!

Alms collected for the 2nd quarter as of June 5th-2022 - \$32.00.

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.





Independence Day



Independence Day, also called **Fourth of July** or **July 4th**, in the United States, the annual celebration of nationhood. It commemorates the passage of the Declaration of Independence by the Continental Congress on July 4, 1776. Independence Day is celebrated on Monday, July 4, 2022 in the United States.

The Congress had voted in favour of independence from Great Britain on July 2 but did not actually complete the process of revising the Declaration of Independence, originally drafted by Thomas Jefferson in consultation with fellow committee members John Adams, Benjamin Franklin, Roger Sherman, and William Livingston, until two days later. The celebration was initially modeled on that of the king's birthday, which had been marked annually by bell ringing, bonfires, solemn processions, and oratory. Such festivals had long played a significant role in the Anglo-American political tradition. Especially in the 17th and 18th centuries, when dynastic and religious controversies racked the British Empire (and much of the rest of Europe), the choice of which anniversaries of historic events were celebrated and which were lamented had clear political meanings. The ritual of toasting the king and other patriot-heroes—or of criticizing them—became an informal kind of political speech, further formalized in mid-18th century when the toasts given at taverns and banquets began to be reprinted in newspapers.

In the early stages of the revolutionary movement in the colonies during the 1760s and early '70s, patriots used such celebrations to proclaim their resistance to Parliament's legislation while lauding King George III as the real defender of English liberties. However, the marking of the first days of independence during the summer of 1776 actually took the form in many towns of a mock funeral for the king, whose "death" symbolized the end of monarchy and tyranny and the rebirth of liberty.

During the early years of the republic, Independence Day was commemorated with parades, oratory, and toasting in ceremonies that celebrated the existence of the new nation. These rites played an equally important role in the evolving federal political system. With the rise of informal political parties, they provided venues for leaders and constituents to tie local and national contests to independence and the issues facing the national polity. By the mid-1790s the two nascent political parties held separate partisan Independence Day festivals in most larger towns. Perhaps for this reason, Independence Day became the model for a series of (often short-lived) celebrations that sometimes contained more explicit political resonance, such as George Washington's birthday and the anniversary of Jefferson's inauguration while he served as president (1801–09).

The bombastic torrent of words that characterized Independence Day during the 19th century made it both a serious occasion and one sometimes open to ridicule—like the increasingly popular and democratic political process itself in that period. With the growth and diversification of American society, the Fourth of July commemoration became a patriotic tradition which many groups—not just political parties—sought to claim. Abolitionists, women's rights advocates, the temperance movement, and opponents of immigration (nativists) all seized the day and its observance, in the process often declaring that they could not celebrate with the entire community while an un-American perversion of their rights prevailed.

With the rise of leisure, the Fourth of July emerged as a major midsummer holiday. The prevalence of heavy drinking and the many injuries caused by setting off fireworks prompted reformers of the late 19th and the early 20th century to mount a Safe and Sane Fourth of July movement. During the later 20th century, although it remained a national holiday marked by parades, concerts of patriotic music, and fireworks displays, Independence Day declined in importance as a venue for politics. It remains a potent symbol of national power and of specifically American qualities—even the freedom to stay at home and barbecue. (taken from Encylopedia Britannica)

BIBLE CLASS

The adult Bible class meets on Sunday morning from 9 – 10:30 am. We meet in the Bible class room adjacent to the kitchenette.

The first half hour is usually fellowship time while partaking of baked goods and coffee. Then, at 9:30, we begin our work on the current topic being studied.

The class has covered a variety of topics in a variety of ways. We studied the book of James. The Bible study was written by Matt Chandler. It was video based with a workbook. It dealt with the issue of "Faith verses Works."

Another study that we did was "The Lion, the Witch, and the Wardrobe" written by C. S. Lewis. It mirrored the life of Christ and the daily battle against Satan and his temptations. The class watched a video on Lewis' life to gain background and understanding as to why he wrote, "The Chronicles of Narnia."

The members of the class requested that we do a review of Luther's Small Catechism. So that was the next study that we did using the Catechism, Bible, and a workbook. All six parts were studied in depth. After taking a survey of what the members wanted to study next, we chose the book of Esther. It started out with three sessions on Ruth, then seven sessions on Esther. This was a workbook study along side of the Bible.

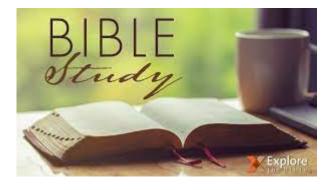
Presently, we are studying the Psalms. There are ten sessions that deal with ten different Psalms. The ten Psalms are reflective of ten different themes that are found in the book of Psalms.

During Advent and Lent, the class would take a break from what they were currently studying to do a mini class on those two seasons of the church year.

All church members are invited and welcome to join us at any time. We do have very interesting discussions. Sometimes the discussions skirt the theme of the study, but are important and relevant.

There is always a light-hearted side to our weekly class. And the members enjoy the fellowship of sharing once a week with their church family.

As I said earlier, all are welcome. Want to know more, ask anyone of the current participants.











It feels good to get back to some normalcy in the worship service. Passing the offering plates, going to the altar for communion, and using the hymnal for the liturgy as we did pre-pandemic feels good.

As we use the hymnal for the liturgy, we will fine tune what and how we proceed.

Please feel free to discuss your comments and concerns with either Geoff, our Vicar or myself since we are the ones who plan worship. No changes are ever made without first discussing them at a council meeting and getting approval.

The last three years have been trying and challenging, but with God in the middle of all our decisions, we have become a strong and loving church family You have shown that love by your willingness to include the St. Paul's family into the fold as we work together to build up His kingdom on earth.

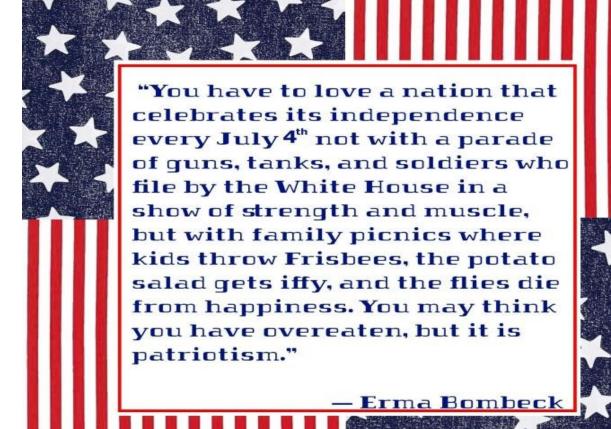
I feel blessed to be a part of both church families and help to lead worship. As I grow older, I realize the time for me to serve will soon come to an end. We never know what the future holds, but with Christ leading and guiding us, we can endure every day.

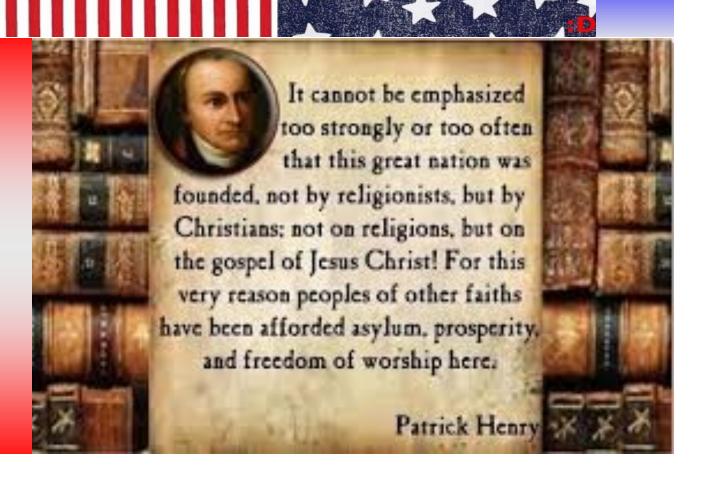
Hold true to the faith you have In Jesus as your Lord and Savior. And always remember His words: "Love one another as I have loved you!"

THE ADULT CHOIR:

Karen Hildebrand, Lois Hollinger, Lois Stambaugh, Dave Stambaugh, George Card, Beverly Card, Ding Wang. Ken Sanders, Minister of Music







PRAYER

Christians especially in the Middle East- persecuted

Prayer Warriors—Spirit is moving

Helen Wu-Husband in nursing home

Jovce 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

Karen Hildebrand-Health issues

Fran Shoff-Health issues

Tom Gibson-Health issues

Tammy Cahoon-Health issues

Lois Stambaugh-Health issues

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen

Joyce Devan

Dawn Frey

Kim Thompson

Norma Null

<u>LEADERS</u>

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 Lois Hollinger

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





1st - Nancy Hildebrand

9th - Linda Billet

23rd- Carla Allison

28th - Alvin (Fred) Markey II

30th - Kristin Summers



Early August Birthdays

1st - Christina Lin

1st - Breana Wilson

6th - Norma Null

9th - Marguerite Beck

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



<u>MILITARY</u>

Sgt. Tyr Abendschoen

U. S. Army



POLICE Jonathan





FREE BREADS AND DESSERTS

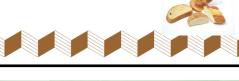
DONATED WEEKLY BY: PANERA BREAD

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.





WOMEN'S CARE CENTER

Formerly Pregnancy & Family Resource Center

40 South Richland Avenue

York, PA 17404

Phone: (717) 854-6285



