

**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 8**

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

**AUGUST 2022**

(See the article inside on vacations.)







## 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, 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](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)



For what they offered to the Lord from the sweat of their brow, the bread of anxious toil, came back to them as the bread of life, the bread come down from heaven that whoever eats this bread and drinks this cup would receive life through the forgiveness of their sins.

This is not unlike what the Lord did for His people in the Old Testament:

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.

What a blessing! God provides for us in all things. He provides bread from the sweat of our brows, and He receives this from us in the first fruits offerings we give to Him in thanksgiving and praise. He receives and turns it into spiritual bread, heavenly bread, the bread of eternal life and gives it back to us so that we might have joy. So, the next time you are in the Divine Service, watch this ceremony in wonder, that the Lord gives back to us, what we have given to Him so that we may rejoice in the salvation He has won upon the cross and gives to us in His supper.

## STEWARDSHIP-AUGUST 2022

### The Ceremony of the Offertory

Have you ever noticed the subtle ceremony involved in receiving the offerings during the Divine Service? After all the offerings have been collected, they are brought forward and given to the pastor or one of his assistants. The pastor then turns toward the altar, and as he slightly bows his head, the collection plates with the offerings in them are raised slightly to the Lord and then placed either on the altar or a table for the offerings. Why do we do have this ceremony? And what does it teach us? For that is what ceremony does; it teaches, as the Augsburg Confession tells us, what we need to know about Christ (AC XXIV, 1–3).

Originally, this ceremony included more than simply bringing forward what was collected in the offering plates. The elements for the Holy Communion—the bread and the wine—were brought forward along with the offering plates. As the offering plates and the elements were lifted toward the Lord, and placed upon the altar, the elements would be put in the center and the altar, now made a table, would be set for the Lord's Supper.

These gifts brought to the altar came from the sweat of the people's brow. It is the bread and wine, the fruits of the peoples' labor in this fallen world. After six days of labor and toil, the people would bring a generous proportion for the Lord's work. It was set upon the altar and offered to the Lord for Him to take up and press into His service for His gracious work in and among them.



# STEWARDSHIP

*Managing God's Gifts To Us*

## OH LORD,

I praise you for  
blessing me with another  
day. You woke me up today  
because you are not done  
with me yet. And even though  
my situation overwhelms and  
saddens me at times, I choose  
to be happy. I know that  
you have a plans for my life  
and that today is the day you  
have made for me to rejoice  
in it. Teach me how to  
develop real joy that comes  
from you and that sustains  
any circumstance.  
Amen.



## Bible Study

9:00 AM

**AUGUST 2022  
PARISH VISITOR**

**SEPTEMBER 2022 DEADLINE**

[Articles Due](#)

[Friday, August 19th,](#)

[Send Date](#)

[Thursday, August 25th](#)

## Newsletter

### MEETINGS IN AUGUST

**Worship Committee**

**Church Council**

**Meetings will be announced**

**9th at 6:00 pm**



### UPCOMING AUGUST 2022 SERVICES

**August 7th-Communion (9th Sunday after Pentecost)**

**August 14th-Non-Communion (10th Sunday after Pentecost)**

**August 21st-Communion (11th Sunday after Pentecost)**

**August 28th-Non-Communion (12th Sunday after Pentecost)**

## August

**Sunday<sup>†</sup>  
Services**



OPPORTUNITIES TO KNOW

JESUS  
Bible Study  
Sunday Morning Service

9:00 AM  
11:00 AM

First St. John's Lutheran Church

140 West King Street, York, PA 17401 / 843-8597

AUGUST 2022

CHURCH OFFICE

Phone Number 717-843-8597

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
	<b>1</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>2</b>	<b>3</b>	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>7</b> 9th Sunday after Pentecost C / Green	<b>8</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>9</b> CHURCH COUNCIL MTG. 6:00 PM	<b>10</b>	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b>	<b>13</b>
<b>14</b> 10th Sunday after Pentecost NC / Green	<b>15</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>16</b>	<b>17</b>	<b>18</b>	<b>19</b>	<b>20</b>
<b>21</b> 11th Sunday after Pentecost C / Green	<b>22</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>23</b>	<b>24</b>	<b>25</b>	<b>26</b>	<b>27</b>
<b>28</b> 12th Sunday after Pentecost NC / Green	<b>29</b> Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	<b>30</b>	<b>31</b>			
		LAY READER	USHER Bill Lupp	ALTAR GUILD Lois Stambaugh		

This dedicated space honors the ongoing sacrifice of rescue, recovery, and relief workers, and the survivors and members of the broader lower Manhattan community, who are sick or have died from exposure to toxins at the World Trade Center site in the aftermath of 9/11. It also recognizes the courage, selflessness, and perseverance of the men and women of the rescue and recovery effort.

9/11 MEMORIAL GLADE



A Callery pear tree became known as the “Survivor Tree” after enduring the September 11, 2001 terror attacks at the World Trade Center.

THE SURVIVOR TREE



*Tribute in Light* is a commemorative public art installation that both honors those killed and celebrates the unbreakable spirit of New York.

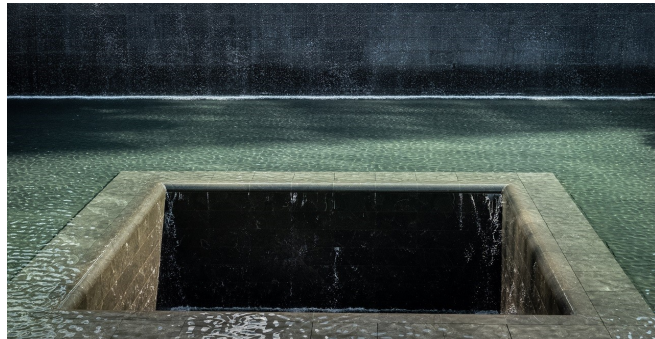


TRIBUTE IN LIGHT





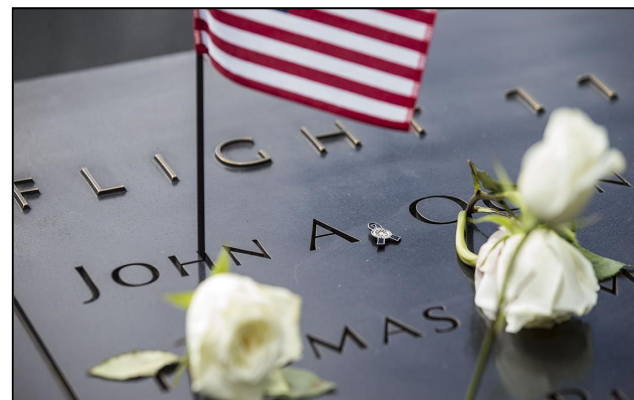
The 9/11 Memorial is a tribute of remembrance, honoring the 2,977 people killed in the terror attacks of September 11, 2001 at the World Trade Center site, near Shanksville, Pennsylvania, and at the Pentagon, as well as the six people killed in the World Trade Center bombing on February 26, 1993. The 9/11 Memorial is located at the site of the former World Trade Center complex and occupies approximately half of the 16-acre site. The Memorial's twin reflecting pools are each nearly an acre in size and feature the largest man-made waterfalls in North America.



## ABOUT THE MEMORIAL

Prior to its opening in 2011 on the 10th anniversary of the 9/11 attacks, the National September 11 Memorial & Museum underwent a multi-year process to verify and arrange the names that would be inscribed into the Memorial's bronze parapets. All inscribed names represent 9/11 attack homicide victims: people who died as a direct result of injury sustained in the attacks on September 11, 2001, including the impacts of the planes and the building collapses. Every name can be located by the panel on which it is inscribed. A panel address is comprised of the letter N or S (N for North Pool, S for South Pool) followed by a number 1 through 76.

## NAMES ON THE MEMORIAL



**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.





### Summertime – Vacation Time

The months of July and August have generally been when most people go on vacation. That is a time to get away from the work force and the day to day items that consume our time. It is a time for a little fun, and to refresh ourselves.

For many people, when they take a vacation, they also take one from God and worship. One can always find time to be in worship with our Lord and Savior. You do not need to be in a building, (a church), to have time with God. Many vacation spots afford outside opportunities for worship. One such place is Ocean City, Maryland.

On the boardwalk, in OC, in front of the Plim Plaza, there is a special section of beach, (sandy area), that has religious sculptures made with the sand. They have brief services there on a Sunday morning. The pictures on the cover are of two of the sculptures. There are always messages with the sculptures, as you can see in the pictures.

There are services that one can access through your smart phone, tablet, or computer. Some areas also broadcast services on the radio and TV.

Remember, God does not take a vacation from you and from having his angels keep watch over you.

Here are a few more sand sculptures from OC, MD.



## Music in the service of the Gospel

By Matthew Harrison

Some of Luther's most famous accolades for music came in a preface he wrote to musician Georg Rhau's *Delightful Symphonies* (1538). "Next to the Word of God, music deserves the highest praise. . . . Whether you wish to comfort the sad, to terrify the happy, to encourage the despairing, to humble the proud, to calm the passionate, or to appease those full of hate. . . what more effective means than music could you find?" Those unaffected by the delights of music as a bearer of the Word of God "deserve to hear . . . the music of the pigs."

Luther concludes his preface with a few sentences that could have been written yesterday: "Let this noble, wholesome, and cheerful creation of God be commended to you. By it you may escape shameful desires and bad company. At the same time you may by this creation accustom yourself to recognize and praise the Creator. Take special care to shun perverted minds who prostitute this lovely gift of nature and of art with their erotic rantings; and be quite assured that none but the devil goads them on to defy their very nature which would and should praise God its Maker with this gift, so that these [colorful word deleted] purloin the gift of God and use it to worship the foe of God, the enemy of nature and of this lovely art" (Luther's Works, vol. 53, pp. 323–24).

The hymnals of Luther's day contained orders and resources for services and prayers, along with hymns. In fact, it was the Lutheran Reformation, riding on the wave of Gutenberg's press, that brought forth hymnals. And they've been a hit ever since. Some years ago, as the LCMS was working toward a new hymnal, the naysayers commented: "Well, you're going to have a whole warehouse full of those things." Even in this digital age, *Lutheran Service Book* (*LSB*) has far outperformed *Lutheran Worship* (1982), which peaked at only a 56 percent penetration among LCMS congregations. Today, *LSB* is used in nearly 90 percent of the Synod's congregations. Its electronic version, *Lutheran Service Builder*, is used widely to assist congregations in printing bulletins. *LSB* is certainly one of the best-selling books in the history of Concordia Publishing House, with more than one million copies in print.

Luther applied his thoughts on Christian freedom to the matter of worship. Under the Gospel, "a Christian is a perfectly free lord of all, subject to none." Under the law of love, "a Christian is a perfectly dutiful servant of all, subject to all" (Luther's Works, vol. 31, p. 344). There is unbelievable freedom in worship (Gal. 5:1). Yet, as St. Paul teaches, we are to use our freedom in service to our neighbor, and we therefore accept limits to our freedom (Gal. 5:13). It would be irksome or even offensive for everyone to have completely different worship practices and forms every week, though it would not necessarily be sinful. Many would find it irksome and tiring to have no variety in the weekly service. The hymnal allows both stability and variety. To be sure, the freedom we have stretches beyond using the hymnal, so long as what is done in song and liturgy does not confound the Gospel and detract from Christ. We do say, however, that the order of the service should be followed. At the least, the parts of the service should be present.

Why? They hold up Christ and deliver the Gospel. We should not omit a clear confession of sins by the people and absolution by the pastor. We should not ditch the readings. We should and must preach textual sermons, with clear Law and Gospel applied directly to those present. The Lord's Supper should follow confession and preaching as preparation. We should not be messing with the Lord's Words of Institution. We are to be responsible in distributing the Sacrament to those who confess that the body and blood that are present and who are in confessional fellowship with us (see Explanation of the Small Catechism, especially Question 305). Exceptions are exceptions, not the rule.





## Music & Worship Notes



I know that it is just August, but it is time to start thinking about September and the programs that will begin again.

Choir is one of those programs that begins early in September. This year, rehearsals will begin on Wednesday, September 7, at 6:30 pm. As in the past, we will be meeting in the Bible Study classroom.

All are welcome to join and lift your voice in praise of our Lord and Savior while helping to lead the congregation in worship.

There is the special worship service to remember 9/11, coming up at the beginning of September. This has become a time when we, First Saint John's congregation join with Saint Paul's congregation to remember the lives lost. We especially remember the first responders. The service also honors the first responders currently in service to our communities.

The service is held in the Locust Street Park in Columbia. That morning there is no Bible class or worship at First Saint John's. This year 9/11 falls on a Sunday. More information will be given in the September newsletter.

Looking ahead for the fall, there are some other special events that will take place. One of those will be the LWML fund raising concert. Since the pandemic, the concert was moved from December and a Christmas theme to the Fall. It is no longer named "The Holly and Ivy" concert. It now goes by the name, "The Colors of Fall." Last year the concert was on the second Sunday in October. This year it will be on the First Sunday of November and will incorporate music associated with Fall and Thanksgiving.



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



**Ken Sanders,  
MINISTER OF MUSIC**

## BIBLE STUDY

As you study the Bible, whether in a group setting or just personal study, there is a plan that can be followed. Its title is "SOAP." Each letter stands for a part of how to approach Bible study. I am sharing this with you as a guide for your study of God's Word.

### The SOAP *Bible Study Method*

- S:** *scripture*  
As you read, write out the verse(s) that stuck out most to you.
- O:** *observation*  
What truth can you learn? Are there any warnings? Principles? Commands? What is the overall message of the verse?
- A:** *application*  
How does this verse apply to your life today? How can you live differently in light of this truth?
- P:** *prayer*  
Turn these thoughts into prayer. Ask the Lord to show you how to meditate on and apply this scripture to your life.

Following this format should allow you to have a more meaningful outcome to your study of God's word.





#### 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)  
 Karen Hildebrand-Health issues  
 Fran Shoff-Health issues  
 Tom Gibson-Health issues  
 Tammy Cahoon-Health issues  
 Lois Stambaugh-Health issues

#### FIRST TIME REQUESTS

Dick & Gloria Sindlinger-Health issues

#### SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen  
 Joyce Devan  
 Dawn Frey  
 Kim Thompson  
 Norma Null

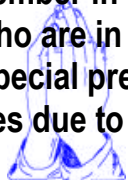
#### LEADERS

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  
 Lois Hollinger

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



**1st - Christina Lin**  
**1st - Breana Wilson**  
**6th - Norma Null**  
**9th - Marguerite Beck**  
**15th - Alexis Stover**  
**18th - Kay Markel**  
**23rd - Edward Abendschoen III**  
**25th - Tyler Fogle**  
**26th - Jeanne Noll**  
**27th - Idarae Lauer-Olinger**



#### Early September Birthdays

**7th - Deborah Stover**

#### 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**

