

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
FIRST ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

VOL 54-ISSUE 10

Website: www.firststjohns.org

OCTOBER 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

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



Christopher Columbus



It was the Lord who put into my mind that fact that it would be possible to sail from here to the Indies. All who heard of my project rejected it with laughter, ridiculing me. There is no question that the inspiration was from the Holy Spirit, because He comforted me with rays of marvelous inspiration from the Holy Scriptures.

AZ QUOTES

Five hundred and twenty-five years ago, Christopher Columbus completed an ambitious and daring voyage across the Atlantic Ocean to the Americas. The voyage was a remarkable and then-unparalleled feat that helped launch the age of exploration and discovery. The permanent arrival of Europeans to the Americas was a transformative event that undeniably and fundamentally changed the course of human history and set the stage for the development of our great Nation. Therefore, on Columbus Day, we honor the skilled navigator and man of faith, whose courageous feat brought together continents and has inspired countless others to pursue their dreams and convictions -- even in the face of extreme doubt and tremendous adversity.

More than five centuries after his initial voyage, we remember the "Admiral of the Ocean Sea" for building the critical first link in the strong and enduring bond between the United States and Europe. While Isabella I and Ferdinand II of Spain sponsored his historic voyage, Columbus was a native of the City of Genoa, in present day Italy, and represents the rich history of important Italian American contributions to our great Nation. There can be no doubt that American culture, business, and civic life would all be much less vibrant in the absence of the Italian American community. We also take this opportunity to reaffirm our close ties to Columbus's country of birth, Italy. Italy is a strong ally and a valued partner in promoting peace and promoting prosperity around the world.

The Protestant Reformation

- + Reformation - change in the way churches teach and practice Christianity
- Church reform in Germany led to a split in Christianity - Protestantism
- Protestant churches today - Lutheran, Presbyterian, Pentecostal, Baptist, Methodist, Evangelical and Advent
- + Martin Luther - believed anyone could live a "good" life under God if they just had faith and love for God



OPEN MY EYES October

Each of the Scriptures below should take ten to fifteen minutes to write (depending on how out in your journal. Feel free to add a reflection to the end of your writing as The Lord speaks to you in a fresh new way. And share with us what The Lord is speaking to your heart in the September comments at The Felicity Bee and let's start a beautiful conversation!

The Promises of God

- | | |
|--------------------------------|-------------------------------|
| Day 1: I John 2:24-25 | Day 18: Hebrews 2:16-18 |
| Day 2: Ezekiel 36:24-27 | Day 19: Psalm 91:8-11 |
| Day 3: I John 1:7-10 | Day 20: Psalm 138:7-8 |
| Day 4: Psalm 103:8-12 | Day 21: I John 4:17-21 |
| Day 5: Micah 7:18-20 | Day 22: Revelation 21:2-5 |
| Day 6: Acts 2:16-19 | Day 23: Isaiah 61:1-3 |
| Day 7: Luke 11:9-13 | Day 24: John 8:31-36 |
| Day 8: John 16:13-15 | Day 25: 2 Corinthians 5:17-18 |
| Day 9: Psalm 34:7-10 | Day 26: Psalm 61:1-4 |
| Day 10: Matthew 6:31-34 | Day 27: Matthew 17:18-21 |
| Day 11: Malachi 3:10-12 | Day 28: Luke 4:17-18 |
| Day 12: Romans 8:31-35 | Day 29: Psalm 9:9-12 |
| Day 13: Psalm 84:10-12 | Day 30: Lamentations 3:22-26 |
| Day 14: Jeremiah 30:16-17a | Day 31: 2 Corinthians 1:2-5 |
| Day 15: Exodus 15:24-26 | |
| Day 16: I Corinthians 10:12-13 | |
| Day 17: James 4:7-10 | |

www.TheFelicityBee.com



Bible Study

9:00 AM

OCTOBER 2022 PARISH VISITOR

NOVEMBER 2022 DEADLINE

Articles Due Friday, October 21st
Send Date Thursday, October 27th

Newsletter

MEETINGS IN OCTOBER

Worship Committee

Meeting—Sunday 10/02/22

Church Council

18th at 6:00 pm (note later date)



UPCOMING OCTOBER 2022 SERVICES

- October 2nd-Communion (17th Sunday after Pentecost)
- October 9th-Non-Communion (18th Sunday after Pentecost)
- October 16th-Communion (19th Sunday after Pentecost)
- October 23rd-Non-Communion (20th Sunday after Pentecost)
- October 30th-Non-Communion (Reformation Day)

October

Sunday
Services

CHURCH OFFICE
Phone Number 717-843-8597

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

OCTOBER 2022

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

SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
						1
2 17th Sunday after Pentecost C / Green	3 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	4	5 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	6	7	8
9 18th Sunday after Pentecost NC / Green	10 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am Columbus Day	11	12 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	13	14	15
16 19th Sunday after Pentecost C / Green	17 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	18 CHURCH COUNCIL MTG. 6:00 PM	19 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	20	21	22
23 20th Sunday after Pentecost NC / Green	24 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	25	26 Adult Choir 6:30 PM	27	28	29
30 Reformation Day NC / Red	31 Panera Bread 9:00-11:00 am	LAY READER Jane Abendschoen Nancy Hildebrand	USHERS Dave Stambaugh Bill Lupp	ALTAR GUILD Nancy Hildebrand		

In 2014, the chapter returned to the division contest, for the first time since 2005, at the Western Division convention in Harrisburg, Pennsylvania. In 2018, the chapter won at the "A" Plateau, and "Most Improved Chorus" overall, in the Central Division Chorus Contest in Alexandria, Virginia. The chorus has advanced to the "AA" plateau for the first time since the plateau system was established in 2007.

One of our congregation members, Mike Beck, is a member of the White Rose Chorus.

The other artist this year is **Sam Waltermeyer**, a pianist. Here is some background on him in his own words.

I am a pianist by ear from south-central Pennsylvania. My journey with piano began completely by ear- one note at a time playing the songs that meant the most to me. In high school I took weekly lessons for about four years. After graduating high school in 2019, I spent one semester of college at Anderson University in Anderson, Indiana, which, although I never studied music, really gave me the chance to expand upon my technique and style.

Any talent that I possess is a gift from God. My heart's desire is to share any skill I have with others. Music is, without a doubt, a universal language, and should be available to those who wish to hear it. My style of music and the pieces I play serve as a tribute to the faithfulness and love of God, the power of both centuries-old and contemporary songs, and the legacy of those who have set apart their lives to serve others. May the music I play and the words I speak be a reflection of that.

I, your minister of music, will be offering up some organ music for the concert. I will also accompany the singing of a few songs and hymns.

There will be a free will offering taken at the concert to help our own LWML in their missionary endeavors here at home and abroad.

There will be some fellowship time and refreshments after the concert. This will provide time to visit with the guest artists.





LWML COLORS OF FALL CONCERT



The "Colors of Fall" concert will be held on Sunday, November 6, at 4 o'clock in the afternoon. This is a change from last year when it was held on the second Sunday in October.

The music will center around the Fall and Thanksgiving seasons. There will be two guest artists this year. One is a group: The White Rose Chorus, and one is a piano soloist: Sam Waltermeyer.

The White rose Chorus has sung for us many times. Here is a little information on the group.

The **White Rose Chorus** is the York, Pennsylvania, chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society, under the direction of Bob Crist III. It was the second society chapter to be chartered in Pennsylvania (1946), and the first in its district to surpass 100 active members. In 2018, the White Rose Chorus was ranked "Most Improved" among eight competing choruses in its division, and the best in its plateau level.

History

The York, Pennsylvania, chapter of the Barbershop Harmony Society (at that time SPEBSQSA, Inc.), was founded in 1945 and sponsored by the Wilmington, Delaware, chapter. The chapter was chartered by the society in 1946 and incorporated in the State of Pennsylvania in 1949. The group was simply known as the York Chapter and the charter president was Harry M. Steinhauser. The York chapter was the second in Pennsylvania to receive a charter and soon sponsored other area chapters including those in Harrisburg, Lancaster, Hanover and Lebanon.

The chapter was at one point inactive in the 1960s. It resumed activity in 1966 and became known as the Colonial Chorus. The chapter bylaws were amended by then president Donald Slonicker, who as of 2021 is still a member of the chapter. The York chapter was the first in the Mid-Atlantic District to surpass 100 active members, and was a division championship-level chorus during the 1980s under the direction of Carl Snyder. The group became known as the White Rose Chorus in 1986 and continued to compete at the division level through 2005.

Membership declined considerably and by 2008 had dwindled to eight active members. It was commonly thought throughout the barbershop community that the York chapter had folded, but that small core of remaining members continued to rehearse and perform under the direction of Bruce Van Order.

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
Pray for health

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.

KJVChristianWallpapers.blogspot.com





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
 The Christian Church in Northern Nigeria
 Bonita Bollinger-Undergoing treatment for breast cancer

FIRST TIME REQUESTS

SHUT-IN MEMBERS

Bonnie Abendschoen
 Joyce Devan
 Dawn Frey
 Kim Thompson
 Norma Null

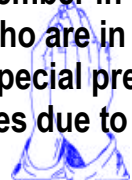
LEADERS

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:**



4th - Donna D'Andrea
5th - Beth Smith
21st - Calvin Taylor
27th - Anna vanDyk



Early November Birthdays

3rd - David Myers, Jr.
6th - Chase Abendschoen
6th - Graham Abendschoen
7th - Wayne Hildebrand III

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



VICAR REPORT

September 2022

First St. John's Lutheran Church and St. Paul's Lutheran Church Council Meeting

Our first year of classes is officially "in the books" as we have completed our Homiletics course! One year down, three to go!

As of 9/6/22, we have kickstarted our fall semester "Heaven on Earth" class. I have included the description of the course.

Course Description

The pastor serves his people with the gifts that come from Christ's presence. This course introduces the student to the theology and practice of Lutheran liturgy. This course will acquaint the student with the biblical and confessional foundations of the Lutheran liturgy, the structure and components of the Divine Service, and the Daily Office in the *Lutheran Service Book*, and provide him with the opportunity to develop skills as a servant of the liturgy. Time will be spent in helping the student plan creative worship with special attention to the central motifs of the Christian calendar and the Church's hymnody. Attention will be given to the history and theology of the Church year and Christian hymnody from biblical times, as well as the great treasury of contemporary hymnody.

Pastor C. and I continue to connect on Thursday mornings to reflect on the current coursework and we share in a devotional group every other Thursday at 6:30 am.

My Thrivent caseload is slowing, allowing me to focus on my continuing education and training requirements with Thrivent. My CE's requirements have now been satisfied. November remains the set date to revisit the relationship and determine the best course for all parties moving forward.

I have not received an update from Redeemer as to their intentions to rotate for Advent. I will reach out to Pastor B. and try and get an answer.

The 9-11 service in the park was held this past Sunday. Due to the wet weather, we held the service inside the church. My estimation was around 50 were in attendance. We held a luncheon afterward which was also well attended. Special thanks to Betty Lou for spearheading the preparation.

The annual week in Ft. Wayne begins this coming Monday morning. There is pulpit coverage in place for Sept. 18th. Thanks to brother Gene for his efforts.

Respectfully submitted,

Vicar Geoff Abendschoen

STEWARDSHIP-SEPTEMBER 2022

“We Are All Beggars”

In the early morning hours of Feb. 18, 1546, Martin Luther closed his eyes forever. Before that happened, the hand that hammered the 95 Theses into the door of the Castle Church in Wittenberg on Oct. 31, 1517, penned its final words: “We are all beggars. This is true.” And this is the truth that our Lord says makes you free.

Ironic, isn't it? In order to be free, you must be a beggar. You must be utterly dependent and reliant upon God. This makes us uncomfortable – the way we're uncomfortable when someone gets us a Christmas present when we haven't gotten them one. We feel we owe them. And we don't like being in someone's debt like that.

But what Luther would remind us is that we are all indeed beggars. And we're not just anyone's beggars. We're God's beggars. Christ came for sinners. He came to seek and save the lost. He came to heal the sick and raise the dead. He came for sinners, and He dwells only with sinners.

If we are to be where He is, we must be willing to be counted among the lost, the sick, and the dead. We must be willing to be beggars. We must cry out for mercy, for grace, and for his undeserved love and kindness. We must be dependent solely on Him and what He gives.

And here's the beauty: He gives us everything. Everything. Forgiveness of sins, salvation from death and the devil, and eternal life. This isn't because of any worthiness or merit in us. It is because of His divine goodness, mercy, and grace. On account of Christ's death and resurrection, the Father forgives you, saves you, and is pleased with you. You receive His love, His righteousness, His holiness, His acceptance, and His inheritance. We are all beggars. This is true.

This is the heart and soul of Christianity and the lifeblood of the Christian Church. God justifies us and declares us innocent and righteous by His grace received through faith for the sake of Christ. This isn't because of our works but because of His work on the cross. We, who once were enemies of God, are reconciled to Him and made to be His children.

This is what Luther pointed us to when He took up his pen for the last time and scribbled “We are all beggars. This is true.” We are beggars, but we are beggars of the God who does not ignore us and who doesn't pass by us on the other side. We are beggars of the One who descended from heaven to make His dwelling with sinners.

We are beggars of Him who deigns to dwell with us, among us, and – yes – still in us by grace for Christ's sake. For in the bread and cup that we bless we share together with Christ and each other the riches of God's grace. The riches of this grace – the Gospel in sermon and absolution, in Baptism, and in Holy Communion – are so inexhaustible that our cups overflow. We, who are God's beggars, are inexhaustibly satisfied, and we have something to give back in thanksgiving and praise.



STEWARDSHIP
Managing God's Gifts To Us



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**
Pregnant?

WOMEN'S CARE CENTER

**Formerly Pregnancy & Family
Resource Center**

40 South Richland Avenue

York, PA 17404

Phone: (717) 854-6285



Music & Worship Notes



Many thanks to all who helped with the 9/11 service at St. Paul's in Columbia. Even though it rained and we could not be in the park, the service was great and the attendance was good.

At the end of this month is Reformation. We will be singing some of Luther's hymns. We will be in harmony with Lutherans around the world as we worship that day.

Mark your calendar for next month's LWML concert, "The Colors of Fall." The concert will be on Sunday, November 6, at 4:00 in the afternoon. There will be refreshments served afterwards. Please read the write up about the concert elsewhere in this newsletter.

One of our long term choir members, Karen Hildebrand, has retired. We wish to thank her for her many years of service to her lord in using her voice to sing praises with the other members of the choir and in helping to lead the congregation in worship.



**Lois Hollinger, Lois Stambaugh,
Dave Stambaugh, George Card,
Beverly Card, Ding Wang,
Zihong (Andy) Su.**



**Ken Sanders,
MINISTER OF MUSIC**

FOURTH QUARTER ALMS FUND



Our fourth quarter Alms fund is dedicated to the Veteran's Helping Hand of York County. Here is some background information on the group.

Veteran's Helping Hand was created by Sandy Walker, a Vietnam Veteran who did not want any of his fellow veterans to feel isolated or unwelcomed after coming home from war. Sandy's dream was to open a community center that would not only provide emergency shelter, but would also provide immediate help with the basic supplies such as food, clothing, and transportation. Some of you may have heard of his work over the years where he dedicated his life to serving the homeless and needy of York City and York County. Sandy was able to help meet the needs of a countless number of Veterans. Unfortunately, his service in Vietnam led to severe health issues and Sandy lost his final battle on March 14, 2015. Sandy was in the beginning stages of creating the first homeless center for the Veterans in York County. After his death, members of the York County community worked in Sandy's honor and in October of 2015, Mr. Sandy's Homeless Veteran's Center became a reality!

