

# SEPTEMBER/OCTOBER 2022 THE MESSENGER

St. John's Newsletter

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## St. John's Website:

<https://www.stjohnsnaz.org>

## Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/stjohnsnaz>



## Worship with us

### SUMMER SERVICE

Saturdays at 5:30pm

Sundays at 9:00am

### FALL SCHEDULE (beginning September 11)

Saturdays at 5:30pm

Sunday School at 9:15am

Sundays at 8:00am and 10:30am

Go to **St. Johns Facebook page and YouTube channel** for  
our livestream at **5:30 pm** every **Saturday**

# A Message From Your Pastor

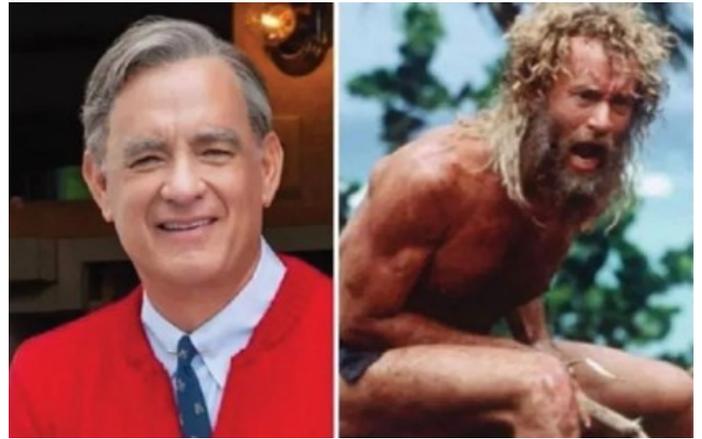
Oh, the Places We'll Go!

"...[G]rant to your servants to speak your word with all boldness,<sup>30</sup> while you stretch out your hand to heal, and signs and wonders are performed through the name of your holy servant Jesus."<sup>31</sup> When they had prayed, the place in which they were gathered together was shaken; and they were all filled with the Holy Spirit and spoke the word of God with boldness. (Acts 4:29b-31 NRSV)

Perhaps you have seen the meme on Facebook. On the left side of the photo is Tom Hanks as Mr. Rogers. On the right side of the photo is Tom Hanks at his worst in the movie, *Castaway*. The caption usually has something to do with before and during the pandemic. The one that has been most shared with me is captioned with "our pastor before the pandemic" under Mr. Rogers and "our pastor during the pandemic" under the photo from *Castaway*. Perhaps you felt that way too during the isolation and uncertainty of it all.

Maybe our congregation can identify with these opposing images. I remember when I began here in July of 2019. We were ready to hit the ground running. In September of 2019 my installation service was held, and Pastor Jennifer preached a sermon where she kept referring to the Dr. Suess book, *Oh, the Places You'll Go!* She understood the excitement of the moment and was certain that the Holy Spirit would be active among us as she reminded us of the great ministry being done at St. John's and the great ministry that was to come. Oh, the places we'll go! Then just a short six months later the pandemic changed everything, and we all started to feel a little like castaways.

In the verses above, the believers in Jesus have experienced something of the same sort of emotional whiplash that the photo above suggests. The power of the spirit had come upon them. Peter had boldly preached the good news of Jesus Christ and 3,000 people came to faith.



There was happiness and joy among the believers as they prayed, shared things in common, preached, and healed. This got the attention of the authorities, and persecutions began. Peter and John are arrested and warned to never preach in the name of Jesus again. After release, they tell their friends, and they pray the prayer above. Their prayer is answered as the Holy Spirit fills them, and they speak the word of God with boldness. They persist.

Throughout the castaway time of the pandemic, we too have prayed and persisted at being the people of God in this place. As our program year begins once again. We can embrace and look forward to the places we'll go as we are filled with the Holy Spirit. We'll be trying new ways to worship such as our one Sunday service on Reformation Sunday. We'll begin weekly coffee fellowships on Sundays. We'll boost our volunteer base for worship leadership roles. Adult educational opportunities will be renewed and revitalized. Families will be engaged together in spiritual practices. The nave will be renovated. We'll offer chapel services for our daycare students. We'll begin a visioning process that will shape our future. There's even more to come! Oh, the places we'll go!

This is an exciting time to be the church! Pray that we all will be filled with the Holy Spirit and speak the word of God with boldness. Oh, the places we'll go!

Christ's Peace,  
Pastor Scott



# Sunday Fellowship to Begin!

**Beginning on Sunday, September 11th, fellowship hour will return to St. John's.** Yes, we will have opportunity for fellowship every Sunday (except holidays). This gathering will be from **9am – 10:15am** as well as after the late service (**11:30am-Noon**) in the **Shepherd's Room.**

Stick around after worship, come early to worship or choir practice, or stop by after you take your PreK-8th graders to Sunday School. The coffee will be turned on and the tables ready to welcome you to a time of reconnecting through community fellowship. You are sure to see a pastor or two hanging out, waiting to get to know you as well! We look forward to seeing you around the table.

A side note: We are reinstating the once/month larger fellowships with food and flare! Committees, you should have received your month's assignment already. If you have not, please contact the church office (610-759-3090) or Pastor Jennifer (prjennhall@stjohnsnaz.org).

## Reformation Sunday

Saved by Grace Through Faith!  
A Reformation Celebration  
**One Sunday Service, October 30, 9:15am**

**On Sunday, October 30,** we will combine our Sunday morning worship services into one festival of praise for God's love and grace shown to us. **There will be only one worship service at 9:15am on that Sunday.** The Saturday evening service will still be held and live streamed at 5:30 pm.



This worship service will feature our Festival Choir, children's choir, instrumentalists, and Chalice choir. Our Sunday school students will also be featured as they lead us in prayers and joyful worship. **Following the worship service, we will all gather for a time of fellowship.**

Mark your calendars now. We'll see you there!

## September 11th Prayer

O God of heaven and earth, who's bigger than nations and factions, be with us as we live through times of terror, despair and danger. Be the strength of people who've been touched personally by disaster. Come with healing to those still in need of wholeness. Be the eternal rest of those who've died. Be the energy, compassion and fortitude of those who respond to tragedies of all kinds. Grant our leaders courage and a double portion of your wisdom. The day of universal fellowship seems farther off than ever, O God, but help us not despair of trying to accomplish it. Strengthen our faith. In Jesus' name, Amen.



# Volunteering for Worship



## Badges

Over the summer we have been experimenting with a new way of recruiting volunteers to assist in leading worship. You may have seen the badges in the back of the church or on a person during worship. You may have even been asked to help! Here's how it works.

As people arrive to worship our Council Representatives for each worship are asking people to share the load of worship leadership. These roles include:

- \*communion basket holder - for the empty cups as people leave the communion table
- \*book holder - holds the book for the pastor during communion liturgy
- \*offering usher - to collect the offering and bring it forward
- \*communion usher - to direct people to the communion table
- \*acolyte - to light and extinguish the candles
- \*Food Bank Collection carriers - bring up the gifts we are sharing with the Food Bank in thanks to God

There are so many roles in worship and so many opportunities to serve!

We will still be recruiting people to serve as usher, acolyte, greeter, and lector prior to each weekend. So if you get that call or email, please sign up to assist in worship leadership. We hope that both of these systems provide an opportunity for all of us (young and old alike!) to serve God and the church each weekend.

If you have questions about the badges or want to sign up for any of these service opportunities, please contact Pastor Jennifer ([prjennhall@stjohnsnaz.org](mailto:prjennhall@stjohnsnaz.org)) or the church office (610-759-3090). Or just come to worship early and grab a badge!

## Coffee Hour Hosts and Greeters



As Sunday Fellowship expands its ministry, **we are seeking families (of any shape and size)** to host a coffee hour. Your main role is to greet people, mingle with the masses, and maybe help pour a cup of coffee or two.

Host families need to arrive 15 minutes prior to fellowship hour (this means you may need to leave worship early). For the **9am hosting family**, the coffee will already be started but there will be a few set up and clean up things to take care of as hosts. The **11:30am host family** will need to arrive a few minutes early (also maybe needing to leave worship early) to make sure everything is ready. This host family is responsible for cleaning up the coffee pots. Further details and instructions will be given to all host families for the weekly fellowship ministry.

If you are interested in serving in creating a welcoming environment of fellowship, please talk to Pastor Jennifer ([prjennhall@stjohnsnaz.org](mailto:prjennhall@stjohnsnaz.org)) or call the church office (610-750-3090).



# Grace Notes



Several years ago, an article appeared in a church music journal about a woman who had recently joined her church choir. For years she had always wanted to sing in a choir, but seemed to always find an excuse not to participate. She just wasn't ready to make the commitment. After someone convinced her to give it a try, she reluctantly agreed.

As the weeks progressed, she discovered that being part of the choir had benefits beyond her expectations. Initially she felt challenged to learn the music, but after practicing and blending her voice with other singers, she felt a sense of awe and accomplishment. She realized what a delight it was to be part of a group that shares the joy of music, learns together, cares for one another, and unites voices to bring glory to God. She found that anthems she practiced took hold and the words stuck with her throughout the week, becoming a form of personal prayer. Her participation in choir had become a spiritual renewal for her. She now realizes that for years she had been missing out on all the joys and benefits of being in choir. Now she can only encourage others to wait no longer, but to take the plunge and join the choir!

This past Spring our choirs slowly returned to normal after almost two years of not singing in worship due to the pandemic.



This Fall we are ready to start a new season and invite new voices to join us. Opportunities for all ages, children through adults, are listed below and continue on the following page. Come sing with us, and you'll be glad you did!

Grace and peace,  
Rev. Janice Butz, Minister of Music.



## Music Opportunities



Attention Women of St. John's!!

An open invitation is extended to **ALL women of our congregation to sing in the SAINT JOHN'S WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE for the Women of the ELCA's Thankoffering Service on Sunday, October 9th.** Women who enjoy singing, whatever your musical experience, are encouraged to join for this one-time commitment. Rehearsals will be between our two services on Sunday morning, September 25th and October 2nd at 9:15am, with a final rehearsal on Thursday evening, October 6th at 6:30pm. Multiple rehearsals are scheduled with the hope that singers are able to attend at least one or two of the practices. Come Join Us!!



# Music Opportunities

## For Children & Youth

**All children from 4-years of age through 6th grade are encouraged to join us on Tuesday afternoons from 4:00 to 5:15pm for a special J.A.M. (Jesus and Me) Session.** The afternoon includes time for singing, arts and craft projects, and snacks. The children are divided into two age-level choirs: Creation Choir for children 4 years old through 1st grade and Celebration Choir for children in 2nd through 6th grades. Choir is a great opportunity for children to become involved in the worship life of the church as well as to learn basic music and singing skills. The playing of Orff instruments is an additional aspect of being in choir for the older children. Rehearsals begin Tuesday, 9/13. (Contact Rev. Janice Butz, Minister of Music)



**CHALICE CHOIR** is a wonderful opportunity for **middle school through high school youth** to offer their musical gifts to God. Learning a wide range of anthems and songs, this group brings a refreshing spirit and sound to our worship. In addition to singing, they also have the opportunity to play handbells. There are usually opportunities to take our music on the road as we visit other churches, retirement homes, or nursing-care facilities. **The Chalice Choir meets on Wednesday afternoons at 5:00pm**, prior to Senior High Youth Group and confirmation classes for junior high. Rehearsals begin Wednesday, 9/14. (Contact Rev. Janice Butz, Minister of Music)

## For Adults

The **FESTIVAL CHOIR** consists of the combined Chancel and Philethia Choirs and others from the congregation who wish to sing for the holy festivals of the Christian year. These celebrations include Reformation, the Advent Service of Lessons & Carols, Transfiguration, Easter, Church Music Sunday, and other special occasions. **A half-day retreat** for the Festival Choir will take place in the **Fellowship Hall on Saturday, September 17 from 9:30am to 11:30am** to prepare for Reformation Sunday on October 30 and the Advent Service of Lessons and Carols on December 4. (Contact Rev. Janice Butz, Minister of Music, for more information.)

The **CHANCEL CHOIR**, for adults of all ages, meets on Thursday evenings from 7:00 to 8:30pm and regularly sings for the 10:30am worship service from September through June. **Rehearsals begin Thursday, 9/8.** (Contact Rev. Janice Butz, Minister of Music).

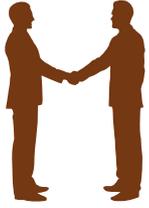
The **PHILETHIA CHOIR** is the adult choir that sings primarily for the 8:00am worship service on the first Sunday of each month, September through May. They normally rehearse on the first Saturday morning of the month at 10:00am **Rehearsals begin Saturday, September 10.** (Contact Deacon Patrice Kidd, director).

The **MEN'S CHORALE** is for all men of St. John's, whatever your musical ability. It is a short-term commitment to the music ministry of our church and provides an opportunity for camaraderie and musical learning. They perform once or twice during the year, with rehearsal and performance dates announced in the church newsletter and bulletins. (Contact Janice Butz, Minister of Music)

The **WOMEN'S ENSEMBLE** is a short-term commitment for the women of our congregation. Like the Men's Chorale, rehearsal times and performances will be announced in advance through the church newsletter and bulletins. Women who enjoy singing, whatever your musical experience, are encouraged to join. Their first opportunity for the new season will be for the Women of the ELCA's Thankoffering Service on October 9. See details on page 4. (Contact Rev. Janice Butz, Minister of Music)

The **HANDBELL CHOIR** is an adult group of bell ringers who participate in worship several times during the year and rehearse on Monday evenings at 6:30pm **Rehearsals begin Monday, September 12.** (Contact Deacon Patrice Kidd, director)

# Pastoral Acts



## New Members

We extend a warm welcome to the following new members who were received into membership on July 24, 2022:

**RICHARD & MATILDE BROWN**

**BARBARA TAMMI**

**NANCY TAMMI**

**EARL & JOANNE WAGNER**



## Weddings

**ISABELLE ROSE DARA & MAXIMILIAN GRANT**

**BEEDLE**

June 4, 2022



## Memorial Gifts

**FRANK A. KERN**

A. Kevin + Susan M. Budd  
John H., Margaret M. + David S. Slack

**HOLLY H. BOWERS-TOTH**

Sarah Amberger  
Debra + Stuart Sands  
Nelson + Shelly Schmauder

**DONALD W. HIMLER**

Craig Dally  
Dave Danner, EA  
Wendy Frey  
Bonnie + David Hempeler  
Thomas + Jeanette Keppel  
David + Carol Lapp  
Randall + Maxine Marsh  
Barry + Lois Morris  
Kyle + Sue Roth  
Roy + Gloria Roth  
Bruce Shafer

**EDWIN BATORI, JR.**

Dominicana Ajala  
Carol Andrews  
Dorothy Baer  
Robert + Diane Batemarco  
Frances K. Bentowski  
Catasauqua High School  
Robert + Virginia Chromiak  
Richard + Geraldine Dilts  
Lisa Ann Fisher  
Louise Fritchey  
Gilbert Funeral Home, Inc.  
Gerald, Randy + Scott Gillespie  
Joseph Gillette  
Michael + Nancy Gillette  
William + Mary Ann Holmes  
Timothy + Mildred Kovolenko  
Lori Ann + Jim Loveless  
Dan + Marcie Mulligan and Family  
Charles + Margeret O'Donnell  
Delores Omara  
Walt + Terri Pan  
Salon Ladies  
Dean + Barbara Sandbrook  
Joseph + Christine Starner  
William + Chloe Urland  
Debra Yelovich



## With Sympathy

Our heartfelt Christian sympathy goes out to the families and friends of the following members and friends of St. John's who passed into eternal life:

**FRANK A. KERN**

June 7, 2022

**HOLLY H. BOWERS-TOTH**

June 20, 2022

**DONALD W. HIMLER**

June 22, 2022

**THOMAS FRANK**

June 25, 2022

**EDWIN BATORI, JR.**

June 26, 2022

**WARREN EBERTS**

July 8, 2022

**LINDA C. FEHNEL**

July 15, 2022

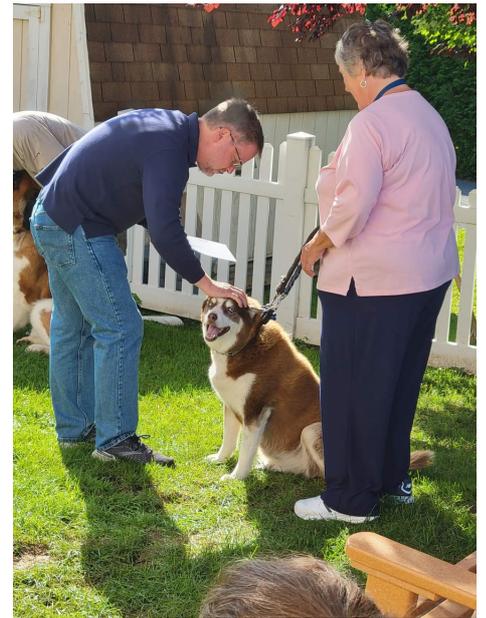
**CHARLES R. WAGNER**

July 21, 2022

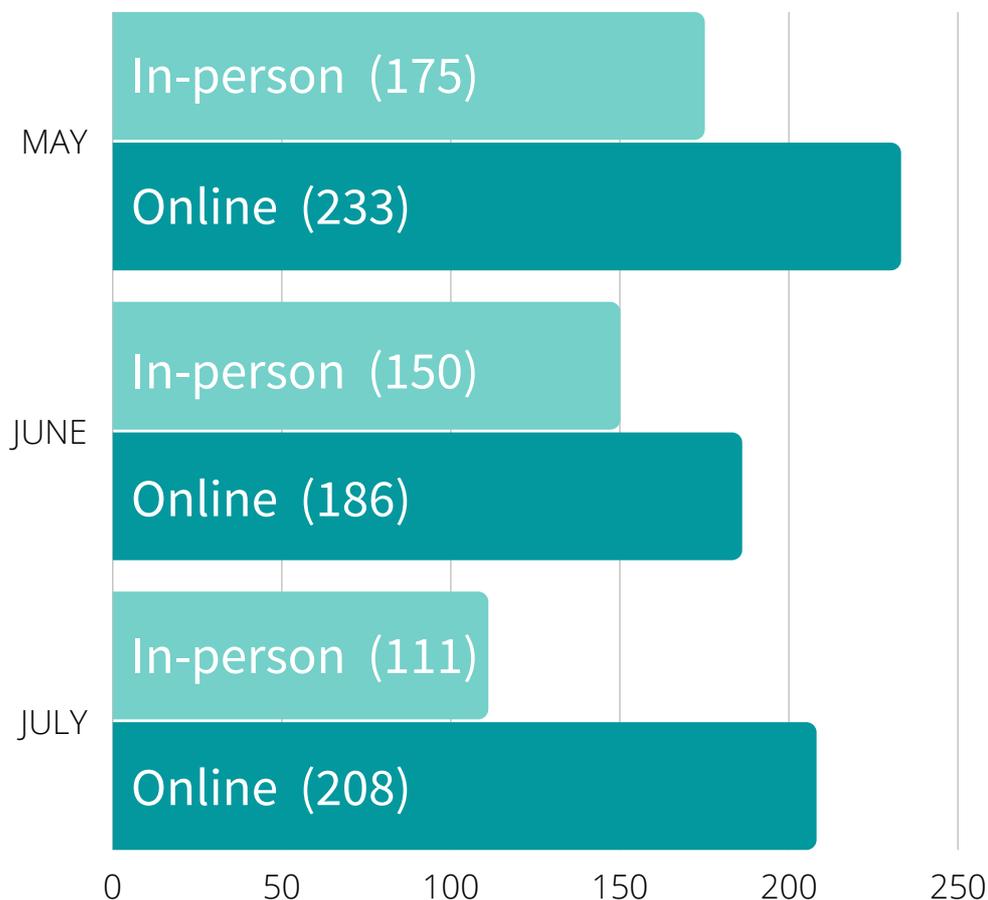
# The Blessing of the Animals

**Saturday, October 1st, 10-11 am**  
**Main Parking Lot**

In early October, the Church remembers the life of St. Francis who had love for all of God's creation. We give God thanks for our animal companions for the love and enrichment they bring to our lives. Bring your pets (any pets!) to our "barking" lot to be blessed. We'll begin at 10 am with a brief liturgy and blessing of the pets. If your pet prefers not to be in the presence of other pets, come a little later for an individual blessing. Pastors will be available until 11am.



## Average Church Attendance





## God's Work. Our Hands.

### Rally Sunday, September 11th

As Sunday School gears up and the PreK-8th grade students meet their teachers, EVERYONE has an opportunity to “rally” in service. September 11 marks the ELCA Churchwide day called God’s work. Our hands. It is a day where all ELCA congregations across all 65 synods of the United States are invited to participate in a day of service. St. John’s is going to join the efforts of sharing God’s love with our community and those around the world.



**During the Sunday School Hour (9:15am) there will be projects set up in the Shepherd’s Room that can be completed by anyone who wishes to join us.** Projects include: writing notes to our homebound members as well as those receiving food from the Nazareth Area Food Bank, putting together health and hygiene kits, and making baby care kits to be sent to our partners through Lutheran World Relief.

**We hope to see you around the service and fellowship tables on Sunday, September 11th from 9:15-10:15am** as we are God’s hands and feet in the world! More information will be made available through our weekly communications.

## Beginnings and Blessings

**3rd Grade and Confirmation Bibles** will be presented to students during worship the weekend of **September 10-11, at all worship services.** Our congregation gifts these children who are embarking on new paths of learning and faith in the coming year. If your child is in 3rd grade and needs to receive a Bible, please contact the church office or Pastor Jennifer.



**Sunday School Teachers for PreK-8th grade classes will be Installed at all services the weekend of September 17-18.** As a community we will pray over these leaders as they dive into conversations and learning with our younger worshipers.

**Confirmation class for 7th & 8th graders** begins with **Family Orientation at 6:15pm on Wednesday, August 31st in the fellowship hall.** Classes begin September 7th from 6:15-7:15pm.



## Adult Christian Education

### Adult Christian Education

As you might have read in Pastor Scott's opening remarks, we are in the process of revisioning and reestablishing a plan for overall adult Christian education at St. John's. We have made available a survey to receive feedback and input into this re-creation. In the month of September our plan will be solidified and further opportunities for education and formation will be made available.

This means that currently there is NOT a Sunday morning adult class. We DO have the opportunity for study at Noon on Wednesday's under Jim Jablonski's leadership (see that announcement for more information). Rebekah and Ruth Circles are continuing their studies as well. Please inquire with Laurie Center for more information on these groups. And of course Sunday Fellowship is an opportunity to fellowship with other disciples of Christ. Maybe the Spirit will lead us to something new around those tables as well!

## Noon-time Bible Study

Noon-time Bible Study **returns September 15!** All are welcome to be fed by God's Word as we seek to live as God would have us live. Please bring your lunch and join our Wednesday studies in the fellowship hall. Our study leader is Jim Jablonski. Jim comes to St. John's from Union Church of Seaside Park, NJ where he continues to lead Bible Study from his home in Nazareth. He was ordained as a Minister of the Gospel at Union Church in 2018 and served in support of his pastor until he and his wife, Bonnie, relocated here and joined St. John's in 2020.

## Women of the ELCA

Women of St. John's, here are opportunities for you to gather with one another in Bible Study and fellowship.

Rebekah Circle - September 12th at 7pm

Ruth Circle - Wednesday September 7th at 9am

Rebekah Circle - October 3rd at 7pm

Ruth Circle - October 5th at 9:00am

## Church Office Hours



**The Church Office will be closed on Monday, September 5th in observance of Labor Day.**



# A Message from the Director of Youth & Family Ministries

## SUMMER 2022

What a great summer! It felt as if things were somewhat back to normal, and we were able to gather often. Before we step into a new school year, let us reflect on what our youth were up to this summer here at St. John's.

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS

We spent the beginning of June making scenery and preparing for Vacation Bible School. VBS took place from June 20-24. We had 60 children in attendance, and it could not have been a successful week without our dedicated youth helpers and crew leaders!



In July, the Luther League took their annual trip to Dorney Park and Wildwater Kingdom. We had fantastic weather and a great time!

August began with M.A.D. (Music, Art, & Drama) Camp. Twenty children and around six youth helpers participated this year. It was an awesome week for all involved! They will perform their musical *Showdown at Dry Gulch* in November.

Summer SHYG took place every Wednesday. This summer, we incorporated some events during that time, like playing mini golf, writing cards for our homebound parishioners, and a pool party at Nazareth Borough Park.

I am looking forward to the new year ahead. **On September 11th, Rally Day/Fall Kick-Off, we will have a brief meeting for all youth in grades 7-12 up in the Youth Room at 11:30am.** Please come and give your input on what events you would like to see for this coming year! We cannot wait to kick off this next year with you all!

Blessings,  
Jaime L. Taylor  
Director of Youth & Family Ministries

## UPCOMING EVENTS

September 11:  
Rally Day/Fall Kick Off!  
Sunday School begins at 9:15 am.



# Love-A-Lot Nursery School



Love-A-Lot teachers cannot wait to get back into the classroom for another fun and exciting school year! It is always interesting to see how much our students have grown over the summer, and to see how much they grow over the course of a short 9 months with us.

Our theme for September is All About Me and My School. Teachers will spend time getting to know our kiddos better, and the children will spend time getting to know their school and teachers. We will play games, sing songs, make crafts, and pretend together, all while practicing classroom routines and learn to be caring, sharing friends.

In October we will be exploring all things Farm. We will turn our pretend center into a farm, learn about farm animals, and we will make our annual trek to Juniperdale Farm where we will visit the animals and pick our own pumpkins right off the vine! We will wrap up the month by carving pumpkins with the special guys in our kids lives, and march around the building in costumes for our Halloween parade. Fall is one of our favorite times of year!

If you are interested in enrolling your child in our Preschool or Pre-K program, please contact us directly for more information. Registration will open in the beginning of October for the 2023-2024 school year! For more information, please contact the school by phone (484-293-0720) or email ([LoveALotNurserySchool@yahoo.com](mailto:LoveALotNurserySchool@yahoo.com)).

## Underwear Drive

September is **UNDERWEAR DRIVE FOR APPALACHIA** month. Donations will be accepted from Sept. 1st - 30th.

Articles needed are pull-ups for toddlers, underpants up to size 4x, boys, girls, men's & women's.

Donation box will be in the Fellowship Hall. School is starting so let's give these families a helping hand! Keep an angel on your shoulder as you generously share what we all take for granted! Thanks!



# College Student Address Form



*I*t's that time of the year when young people are off to college to pursue higher academics while continuing to develop into young adults. The Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee recognizes the importance of reaching out to the older youth of our church. Once the opportunity for Luther League activities and weekly worship is stretched because of living away from home on a college campus or new schedules because of career fields, it is important to gently remind our youth of their connection to their church home.

The Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee continues to support them by maintaining contact with those high school students who have graduated and are pursuing higher education or who are starting in new career fields. We are continuing the program in which mailings are sent to these young people to let them know that we care about them and are keeping them in our hearts and prayers.

**We invite you to submit the name and address of those in college so we may include them in this program.** If you have any questions, contact Joyce Wallace from the Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee. Please return forms to the Church Office or to the Evangelism/Social Ministry mailbox.

Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: \_\_\_\_\_

Please Check One:

Is now working locally       Is now working away from the area  
 Is now at college locally       Is now at college away from the area

Name of College Attending: \_\_\_\_\_

Address (at school, has moved out from home, or if working away from the area):

\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_  
\_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number: \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Submitted by: \_\_\_\_\_



# Blanket Sundays

September 17, 18, 24 & 25

For 30 years St. John's has been participating in Church World Services humanitarian efforts to provide relief to people around the world who are facing many types of hardships such as homelessness, natural disasters and emergency situations. The program provides blankets as well as hygiene kits, school kits, safe water, tools, clean up kits, training and other resources for long term recovery.

The Social Ministry Committee is once again asking for your support with this program. Envelopes will be available in our bulletins for your donations of cash or check. (make checks payable to St. John's, and in the memo line write "CWS Blankets"). You may also give your donations to the church office, use the QR code on the insert, or go online at:

[CWSblankets.org/donate](https://CWSblankets.org/donate)

A single donation of \$10.00 can purchase a blanket that will provide warmth, protection, and comfort to children and adults of all ages. A sample blanket is on display in the Shepherd's Room. Thank you for your compassion and for your generosity and support.

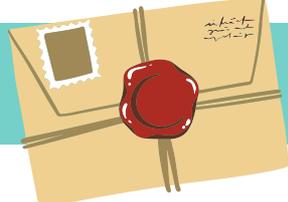


~The Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee

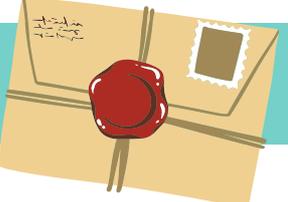
## Chemo Bags

The Evangelism/Social Ministry Committee is once again collecting items for Chemo Bags (a list of suggested items is below). These gift bags are distributed to local hospitals. Members of our own congregation have benefitted from this drive. Collection bins will be in the Shepherd's Room **October 1st - 23rd**. Your contributions are greatly appreciated as they help to provide comfort and a touch of love to patients going through chemo treatments.

- Bottled water
- Ginger tea
- Green tea
- Journal
- Knit hat
- Nail files
- Pens
- Peppermint tea
- Puzzle books
- Healing lip balm
- Crystallized ginger
- Lap blanket 50" X 60"
- Sleep masks
- Thick soft socks
- Travel-size first aid kit
- Travel-size hand & body creams
- Travel-size hand sanitizer
- Travel/purse size tissues
- Colloidal oatmeal soup
- Gentle toothpaste & mouthwash (Tom's, Biotine)
- Healthy, all natural, organic preservative free treats
- Mints, lemon drops, gum
- Packets of instant soup
- Prepaid phone calling or SMS gift card
- Selection of notecards with pre-stamped envelopes



# Homebound Birthdays



Let's spread some joy to our homebound friends who are celebrating birthdays in the coming months



## September 6th

**Kathryn Moyer**  
c/o Michele Smith  
3960 Fireline Rd.  
Palmerton, PA 18071

## September 10th

**Anna Grube**  
Country Meadows Forks  
Apt. 222  
175 Newlins Rd. West  
Easton, PA 18040

## September 16th

**Donald Boyhont**  
Moravian Hall Square  
Apt. 3207  
175 W. North Street  
Nazareth, PA 18064



## October 3rd

**Ruth Boyhont**  
Moravian Hall Square  
Apt. 3207  
175 W. North Street  
Nazareth, PA 18064

## October 15th

**James Hartzell**  
Pond View Manor  
P.O. Box 67  
Walnutport, PA 18088

## October 22nd

**Carolyn Gehman**  
MHS - Primrose 1019  
175 W. North St.  
Nazareth, PA 18064

## Nazareth Area Food Bank Donations

- **SEPTEMBER 24-25:** spaghetti, canned chicken, microwave popcorn, corn bread, yams
- **OCTOBER 29-30:** large cans of soup, green beans, cranberry sauce, tuna (large or small)

Donations can be dropped off in the Fellowship Hall. Checks should be made payable to the **Nazareth Area Food Bank** and mailed to **PO Box 18, Nazareth, PA 18064**.

# Special Offering

## September: Engineers Without Borders

This month our special offering envelopes benefit the Engineers Without Borders - Lehigh Valley Professionals Chapter.

Engineers Without Borders supports community-driven development programs worldwide by collaborating with local partners to design and implement sustainable engineering projects, while creating responsible leaders.

For more information, please contact St. Johns member and EWB-LVP member Sean Dooley at 610-657-7420 or d4dooley@hotmail.com.



## October: Women of the ELCA

As a community of women created in the image of God, called to discipleship in Jesus Christ, and empowered by the Holy Spirit, we commit ourselves to grow in faith, affirm our gifts, support one another in our callings, engage in ministry and action, and promote healing and wholeness in the church, the society, and the world.



Scan the QR code  
to donate virtually



# Prayer Requests



**Names of those needing prayers will be added to the Prayer Chain Committee List.**

**Would you like this name added to the list read during the prayers at church during the worship service?**

\_\_\_\_\_ Y \_\_\_\_\_ N \_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person/s Needing Prayers:

\_\_\_\_\_

Special notes (optional):

\_\_\_\_\_

Name of Person making this Request:

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_ Email Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Names will be kept on the prayer list/s for **4 weeks**. If someone continues to need prayers beyond that, please let the Church Office know or fill out a new form. The forms are located at the back of the Nave. Completed forms can be placed in the Offering Plate or given to the Church Office. (Revised August 2019)

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# THANK YOU!

Dear St. John's,

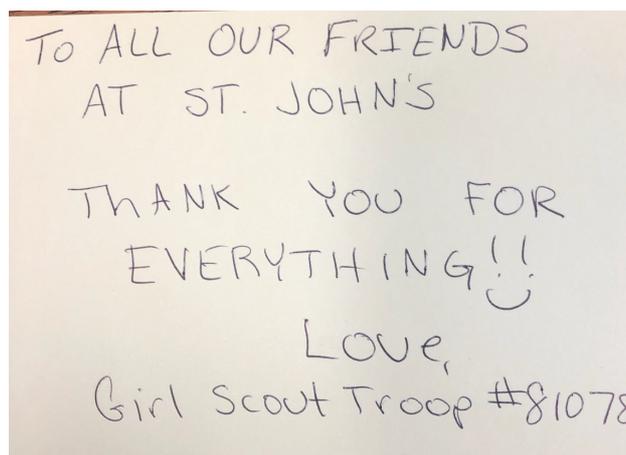
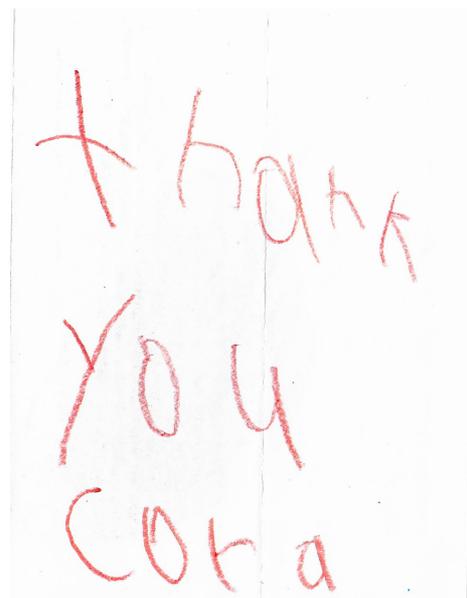
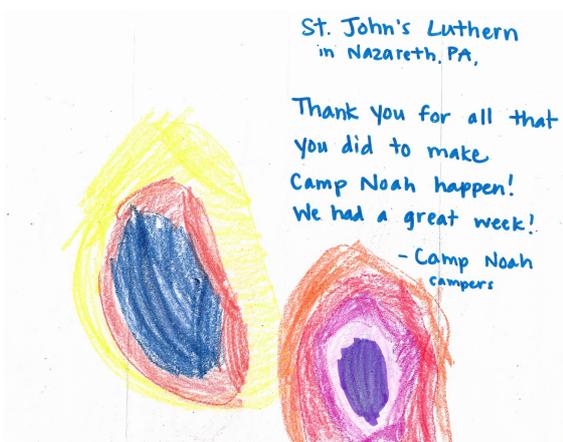
On behalf of the Marshall County Long Term Recovery Group, I want to thank you for your donations of 52 adorable fleece blankets for our Camp Noah in Marshall County Kentucky and the \$250 Thrivent Action Card. Our camp was a great success and your donation of those soft blankets was a blessing to each and every camper who attended our Camp Noah. We used the Thrivent card to buy cereal, drinks and juice for the campers and staff. It is because of people like you that Marshall County Kentucky will continue to progress toward recovery from the December 10, 2021 tornado. Thank you for generously providing us with a helping hand.

In God's amazing grace,

Pastor Colleen Winkler

Site Coordinator Marshall County Kentucky Camp Noah

Pastor St. Matthew by the Lake Lutheran Church, Benton KY



# Church Council Minutes Highlights

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
April 27, 2022  
7:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Rev. Janice Butz, Karen Furler, Christine Garrison, Rev. Jennifer Hall, Rev. Scott Hall, Bonnie Jablonski, Rich Johnson, Joyce Knecht, Barry Miller, Ben Miller, Gail Price, Michele Seaton, Jaime Taylor, Joyce Wallace.

**ABSENT:** Rita Bergstrom, Christina Brodt, Patrice Kidd, Pete Zimmer

**DEVOTIONS:** Pastor Scott Hall read from Psalm 122 and then led with a prayer.

**MINUTES:** The Minutes of the March 22, 2022 meeting were reviewed and stand as written.  
Motion by: Christine Garrison – 2nd: Michele Seaton - Motion passed.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** Pastor Scott read Thank You letters from Linda Clark, Bill & Nancy Brackbill, and Michael & Phyllis Kennedy regarding their wonderful Holy Week and Easter worship experiences.

**PASTOR SCOTT HALL'S REPORT:** Complete as written, including:

1. March 22 – We had our regular staff meeting with a lunch provided by Carol Schaeffer.
2. Lent & Holy Week – Gathering for worship & fellowship these past few weeks has been rejuvenating for me.
3. The singing of the choirs and the congregation has moved me to tears of joy.
4. June 5 – Council Workshop to spend several hours reviewing and discussing the book, Growing Young.

**PASTOR JENNIFER HALL'S REPORT:** Complete as written, including:

1. Many thanks were given regarding the Lenten and Holy Week worship services. Also, thanks to Pete & Lizzie Zimmer for their partnership in education for the middle school. They are taking a break to welcome Baby Zimmer.
2. Things to come: Pastor Jennifer Hall installation at the 5:30 service, May 7th; Gaining Strength Workshop; New Member/Newly Baptized Welcoming Breakfast, June 12th; Confirmation Retreat; and Fall planning.

**REV. JANICE BUTZ REPORT:** Complete as written, including:

1. March 27, 2022 = Faith Through the Arts – Concluded and overall was a great success.
2. April 12 – The Children's Choir had their last J.A.M. session of the season. After Easter the choir transitions into M.A.D. Camp rehearsals to prepare for the musical "Are We There Yet".
3. I played for the two Good Friday services, the Sat. Easter Vigil and the 10:30 Easter Worship Service. The Chancel Choir was excited to return to singing in worship services. Thank you to Sarah Fox & Jaime Taylor for their singing. The Chancel, Chalice & Celebration choirs were all robed and processed in the Nave for the first time in two years. Thank you to Alan Babp for arranging a brass quartet to play before and after the Easter Services.

**DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES REPORT:** Jaime Taylor: Reported

1. March 8 – Palm Crosses making was held. We made over 400 Palm Crosses.
2. April 3 – First Holy communion Workshop was held. Students received their First Holy Communion on Maundy
3. Thursday.
4. April 22-24 – Confirmation Retreat at Tuscarora Inn & Conference Center in Mount Bethel. 11 Youth participated.

**ASST. ORGANIST/CHOIR DIRECTOR REPORT:** Deacon Patrice Kidd: Gail Price Reported

1. Bell Choir has packed up until Sept. 2022. Philethia Choir will finish for the season on May 15th.

# Church Council Minutes Highlights

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **FINANCE:** Karen Furler & Pastor Scott reported:

1. Pastor Hall discussed the General Fund. All is going well.

### **DAY CARE:** Joyce Knecht reported:

1. Painting of the Day Care rooms is complete.

### **ENDOWMENT:** Karen Furler and Pastor Scott reported:

1. Requests were discussed and approved.

### **EVANGELISM/SOCIAL MINISTRY:** Christine Garrison reported:

1. June 12 – St. John’s Family Festival – Welcoming Reception for New Members/Newly Baptized. A \$250 Thrivent Gift Card has been received to be used towards the reception/breakfast.
2. Fellowship Hour – Will resume in September.
3. Loaves & Fishes – Lunch Program – Looking for volunteers. Please reach out to Pastor Jennifer for more information.

### **HELPING HANDS:** Gail Price reported:

1. May 14 – Spring Bike Ride
2. May 21 – Bear Creek Camp Work Day

### **HISTORY/ARCHIVES:** Ben Miller: No Report

1. Received pictures of St. John’s, working on the frames.
2. Showed a display of St. John’s with pastors from 1929.

### **LOVE-A-LOT:** Ben Miller: No Report

1. Both classes are filled for next year.
2. Preparing for the Graduation Ceremony.

### **SUNDAY SCHOOL:** Michele Seaton reported:

1. April 10 – Palm Sunday Procession with Donkey. Everything went well.
2. May 15, 2022 – Bear Creek Camp - A rep will be doing a presentation during the Sunday School hour. They are looking for a \$500 donation to help feed the Bear Creek Camp Staff in-between the cleaning of each Camp Week.
3. May 21 – May 22 – There will be a recognition honoring all graduate in worship.
4. June 5, 2022 – Confirmation Sunday – Jaime Taylor is looking for people to bring baked goods for the reception.
5. Rally Day – Spark Student Bible will be given to 3rd graders. The NRSV Student Bible will be given to 7th graders. 8th graders will get the new Bible at Confirmation on June 5th.

### **UNFINISHED BUSINESS:**

1. Council Appreciation Luncheon – Joyce Knecht reported that the Luncheon will be The Prime on Sept. 25 @ 12:30.
2. House Cleaning Plan – Ben Miller working on this.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. Synod delegates from St. John’s will be: Bonnie Jablonski and Ben Miller. May 22 – Mission District (Pre-Assembly.) June 10-11 – Synod Assembly online in Fellowship Hall.
2. May 7 – Installation of Pastor Jennifer Hall will be at the 5:30 service.
3. June 5 – Growing Young Council Workshop with Pastor Scott & Pastor Jennifer.
4. Ben Miller & Pastor Scott commented about continuing celebrating Communion every week.

Council President Gail Price declared the meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.  
Meeting closed with the Lord’s Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Wallace  
Recording Secretary

# Church Council Minutes Highlights

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
COUNCIL MINUTES  
May 25, 2022  
7:30 p.m.

**PRESENT:** Christina Brodt, Rev. Janice Butz, Karen Furler, Rev. Jennifer Hall, Rev. Scott Hall, Bonnie Jablonski, Rich Johnson, Joyce Knecht, Barry Miller, Ben Miller, Gail Price, Michele Seaton, Jaime Taylor, Joyce Wallace.

**ABSENT:** Rita Bergstrom, Christine Garrison, Pete Zimmer

**DEVOTIONS:** Christina Brodt - Talked about Memorial Day and military services for fallen soldiers followed by a prayer.

**MINUTES:** The Minutes of the April 27, 2022 meeting were reviewed and stand as written.  
Motion by: Ben Miller – 2nd: Joyce Knecht - Motion passed.

**COMMUNICATIONS:** None

**PASTOR SCOTT HALL'S REPORT:** Complete as written, including:

1. Over the next 12 to 18 months, St. John's will be developing guiding statements (core values and mission and vision statements) through a series of events.
2. St. John's seems ready for using alternative forms of worship more regularly. The staff will be meeting and dreaming over the summer to think about what we will try in the fall.
3. St. John's Family Festival will be an intergenerational event where we will mix and mingle to build a stronger sense of community.

**PASTOR JENNIFER HALL'S REPORT:** Complete as written, including:

1. Thank you to all council members and staff for attending and participating in my installation. It was a lovely celebration to honor God's call upon St. John's community.
2. We plan to engage in more discipleship acknowledgements, like graduation. Let Pastor Jennifer know if you have ideas on milestones to honor.
3. Summer discernment will take place around engaging children in worship, re-engage volunteerism, adult education, and reconnecting with each other in community.

**REV. JANICE BUTZ REPORT:** Complete as written, including:

1. Since Easter, our MAD Camp children have had weekly rehearsals. By our opening performance on May 21, we should hopefully have everyone on stage.
2. Pastor Jennifer's installation service was wonderful! It was great to have a return of the Festival Choir and much fun to share an intergenerational anthem with the youth and children's choirs.
3. Since Easter the Chancel Choir has continued rehearsing on Thursday evenings and singing at the 10:30 a.m. worship service. More singers will need to be recruited as we begin again in September.

**DIRECTOR OF YOUTH & FAMILY MINISTRIES REPORT:** Jaime Taylor: Reported

1. April 22-24 – Confirmation Retreat at Tuscarora Inn & Conference Center in Mount Bethel. Went really well! Our theme was Koinonia - community, fellowship with God and one another.
2. May 11 - Under the direction of the Evangelism/Social Ministry committee, the Confirmation students made fleece tie blankets for those affected by the tornadoes in Kentucky.
3. Collin Grooms, the Executive Director of Bear Creek Camp, gave a presentation during Sunday School to the children in attendance. He also spoke during church for a short "Mission Moment" and fielded questions from families after the service. It was a pleasure having him visit.

# Church Council Minutes Highlights

## COMMITTEE REPORTS

### **FINANCE:** Karen Furler reported:

1. Talked about investing funds in Edward Jones accounts in CD's.

### **DAY CARE:** Joyce Knecht reported:

1. Trumbower grant application has been sent in, asking for money to update classroom furniture.
2. New grant being offered for technology. Total grant money is \$5,500.
3. New Tier Wage Schedule was approved.
4. Shed - will be ordered with pre-hung doors.
5. Waiting for quotes from Fox brothers for more cameras to be set up in the Day Care.

### **ENDOWMENT:** Karen Furler reported:

1. Discussed Investment Policy Statement.

### **EVANGELISM/SOCIAL MINISTRY:** Bonnie Jablonski reported:

1. Kentucky Tornadoes - 50 fleece blankets were done for Camp Noah. Blankets will be blessed in the worship service.
2. June 12 - Breakfast / reception for new members and newly baptized.
3. Food Bank Weekends - We will be asking people to bring food items and will resume bringing the food basket forward during the services on these weekends to be blessed.

### **HELPING HANDS:** Gail Price reported:

1. July 24 – Kayak Trip at Lake Nockamixon
2. Aug. 20 - Day trip to Philadelphia to assist in repairs of homes that were damaged by a Hurricane.

### **HISTORY/ARCHIVES:** Ben Miller reported:

1. The display cabinet in the lobby has been updated with pictures, a worship service book and one of the first bibles used at St. John's.
2. The written history of St. John's for the website is done and all the accompanying documents/pictures are assembled.
3. Dean and I worked on the archived boxes in storage. They have all been reviewed.

### **LOVE-A-LOT:** Ben Miller reported:

1. Our classes have one spot open.
2. We visited Crayola and the kids had a lot of fun.

### **PERSONNEL:** Gail Price reported:

1. The 90 day review for Pastor Jennifer was done.

### **PROPERTY:** Rich Johnson reported:

1. Parsonage oil tanks - need to be drained and removed. Bids are being sought.
2. Daycare Shed - The DayCare submitted proposals for two styles of sheds from Green Acres.

### **WORSHIP & MUSIC:** Janice Butz reported:

1. Discussion about taking Communion at the front of the nave. We will continue to use prefilled communion cups until we run out of them.
2. A Sign Up Board - will be placed at the rear of the nave showing all volunteer positions for a given Saturday/Sunday service.

### **NEW BUSINESS:**

1. June 5 - Confirmation Reception

Council President Gail Price declared the meeting adjourned at 8:34 p.m.  
Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully submitted,

Joyce Wallace  
Recording Secretary

# St. John's Staff

## Contact Us

200 S. Broad Street, Nazareth PA

Church Office: 610-759-3090 (See Church Extensions Below)

Fax: 610-759-3719 Email: [Office@stjohnsnaz.org](mailto:Office@stjohnsnaz.org) Website: [www.stjohnsnaz.org](http://www.stjohnsnaz.org)

Church Staff	Email Address	Telephone	Extension
Pastor of Stewardship: Rev. Scott A. Hall	<a href="mailto:prhall@stjohnsnaz.org">prhall@stjohnsnaz.org</a>	412-656-6436	103
Pastor of Discipleship: Rev. Jennifer Hall	<a href="mailto:prjennhall@stjohnsnaz.org">prjennhall@stjohnsnaz.org</a>	512-626-8238	106
Minister of Music: Rev. Janice I. Butz	<a href="mailto:jbutz@stjohnsnaz.org">jbutz@stjohnsnaz.org</a>	610-759-3090	105
Director of Youth & Family Ministries: Jaime L. Taylor	<a href="mailto:jtaylor@stjohnsnaz.org">jtaylor@stjohnsnaz.org</a>	610-759-3090	107
Assist. Organist/Choir Director: Deacon Patrice A. Kidd	<a href="mailto:pakidd58@gmail.com">pakidd58@gmail.com</a>	610-349-0506	104
Parish Administrative Assistant: Linda Kasmakites	<a href="mailto:office@stjohnsnaz.org">office@stjohnsnaz.org</a>	610-759-3090	100
Parish Financial Secretary: Bonnie Mertz	<a href="mailto:finance@stjohnsnaz.org">finance@stjohnsnaz.org</a>	610-759-3090	102
Communications Coordinator: Laurie Storlie	<a href="mailto:commcoordinator@stjohnsnaz.org">commcoordinator@stjohnsnaz.org</a>	610-810-6600	101
Property Manager: Dean Brodt Sextons: Tony Petrillo, Bruce Knecht	<a href="mailto:sextons@stjohnsnaz.org">sextons@stjohnsnaz.org</a>	484-515-8016	N/A
Love-A-Lot Director: Andrea Miller	<a href="mailto:LoveALotNurserySchool@yahoo.com">LoveALotNurserySchool@yahoo.com</a>	484-293-0720	N/A
St. John's Day Care Director: Carly Fantauzzi-Quinones	<a href="mailto:nazareth.stjohns@gmail.com">nazareth.stjohns@gmail.com</a>	610-759-4999	N/A



If you have family members or loved ones that are in the hospital, please let the church office know. You can call us at:

**610-759-3090** or email [\*\*office@stjohnsnaz.org\*\*](mailto:office@stjohnsnaz.org).

**The deadline for all submissions for the November/December issue of *The Messenger* is Tuesday, October 4th.** Please email your article or announcements as a word document attached to [\*\*commcoordinator@stjohnsnaz.org\*\*](mailto:commcoordinator@stjohnsnaz.org) & [\*\*office@stjohnsnaz.org\*\*](mailto:office@stjohnsnaz.org). Thank you.

