

# ST. JOHN'S HEARTBEAT

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH  
40 S. SECOND STREET, SLATINGTON PA 18080  
610-767-6361 (CHURCH)

EMAIL: [stjohnslatington@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslatington@gmail.com); Website: [stjohnslatington.org](http://stjohnslatington.org)

SEPTEMBER 2025

SHARON A. STEHLY, PARISH SECRETARY/BOOKKEEPER

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Dear Friends,

With Pastor Halle, Josh, and Elton relocating to Zelienople for their new jobs, St. John's will be in a transition period until we have a new pastor.

**Call Process** – Numerous people have inquired as to when we will have a new pastor. The Northeast Pennsylvania Synod is working on finding an interim pastor for St. John's. The interim pastor would serve as our pastor during the call process to find a new permanent pastor. Hopefully we will have an interim pastor sometime this fall.

The call process to find a full-time pastor involves convening a call committee, having parishioners complete surveys, completing a lot of paperwork about our church, etc. in order for the synod to create a profile of what St. John's wants in a new pastor. The synod will try to find a good match for our congregation. The call process can take an extended period of time. The congregation will be updated on this process as information becomes available.

## September Worship Time –

Since the beginning of August we have had supply pastors leading worship most Sundays. Until we are able to be assigned an interim pastor, we will have one worship service at 10:15 A.M. each Sunday starting Sunday, September 7. Sunday School will resume on Sunday, September 7, at 9:00 A.M. We will go back to two worship services at 8:00 and 10:15 A.M. once we have an interim pastor.

We will try to have communion on the first and third Sundays of the month as we have in the past, if we have a supply pastor. If no supply pastor is available the first and third Sundays, the service would be a service of the word.

**Pastoral Emergencies** – If you have a pastoral emergency, please call the church office at 610-767-6361. We will try to find a pastor who could help in your time of need.

Thank you for continuing to be a part of St. John's Lutheran Church during this time of transition.

**FALL WORSHIP SCHEDULE**



In order to help you prepare for worship, we print the lectionary texts for each week. If you are helping a young child prepare for worship, look up the texts and

read them together. Below is the schedule for the month of September:

**September 7**

13th Sunday After Pentecost – Rally Sunday  
9:00 A.M. – Sunday School–Rally Day /  
Initial Confirmation Meeting  
10:15 A.M. – Service of the Word  
11:30 A.M.–1:00 P.M. – Community Lunch

Lessons:

Deuteronomy 30:15-20      Philemon 1-21  
Psalm 1                              Luke 14:25-33

**September 14**

14th Sunday After Pentecost  
“God’s Work, Our Hands” Sunday  
9:00 A.M. – Sunday School / Confirmation  
10:15 A.M. – Service of the Word

Lessons:

Exodus 32:7-14                      1 Timothy 1:12-17  
Psalm 51:1-10                      Luke 15:1-10

**September 21**

15th Sunday After Pentecost  
9:00 A.M. – Sunday School / Confirmation  
10:15 A.M. – Communion Service

Lessons:

Amos 8:4–7                              1 Timothy 2:1-7  
Psalm 113                              Luke 16:1-13

**September 28**

16th Sunday After Pentecost – Harvest Home  
9:00 A.M. – Sunday School–Sidewalk Chalk  
Contest / Confirmation  
10:15 A.M. – Service of the Word

Lessons:

Amos 6:1a, 4-7                              1 Timothy 6:6-19  
Psalm 146                              Luke 16:19-31

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**CHURCH SERVICE ONLINE**



You can watch our Sunday church service “Live” on and Sundays at 10:15 A.M. If you are not our Facebook friend, just “like” St. John’s Lutheran Church and watch the service “Live” or at whatever time you want.

St. John’s also has a YouTube channel! To visit the channel go to [youtube.com](https://www.youtube.com) and search "St. John's Lutheran Church, Slatington". Special prayer videos and worship services will be shared on the YouTube account in addition to the Facebook page.

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**SPONSORS NEEDED**

**DOUBLE CHECK DATES**



There are some open dates this fall to sponsor bulletins and/or flowers. The cost to sponsor flowers is \$35.00. The cost for sponsoring bulletins is \$25.00. To sponsor bulletins or flowers for any open

date, sign your name on the appropriate chart posted on the bulletin board outside the church office or call the office at 610-767-6361. Payment can be mailed to the church office or placed in your offering envelope on a Sunday marking the payment is for bulletins or flowers.

- Flowers: September 7, 14, & 28;  
October 12, 19, & 26;  
November 2, 9, 23 & 30; and  
December 28.

- Bulletins: September 14;  
October 12, 19, & 26;  
November 2, 9, & 30; and  
December 14, 24 (10 PM), & 28

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Choir rehearsals will restart on Wednesday, September 10, at 7:00 P.M. in the choir room. New voices are always welcome!

\*\*\*\*\*

**SECOND CHANCE SHOPPE**

The fall board meetings will be held on the following Tuesdays at 11:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall: September 9, October 14, November 11, and December 9.

Volunteers are needed to help at the shoppe. If you can give three hours of your time, please contact Fianna Christman at 610-751-6842.

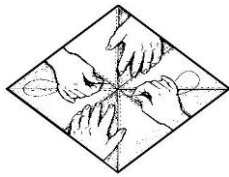


**Clothing Needed** – Second Chance Shoppe needs your assistance. Have your children, or are your children

outgrowing their clothing? Do you have extra clothes in your wardrobe? If so, please consider donating the clothing to “The Second Chance Shoppe”. Since Kmart closed their doors, it is difficult for families to shop close to home. Thank you in advance for your help with clothing donations.

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**SEWING GROUP**



The Sewing Group will meet in the Fellowship Hall on Fridays, September 5 & 12, from 9:30 to 11:30 A.M. Additional sewers are always welcome.

\*\*\*\*\*

**WELCOME BACK TO SUNDAY SCHOOL!**

Our theme for this year is “Be A Part of the St. John’s Puzzle”. It is important that we all realize how important each one of us is to the life of St. John’s and its ability to do God’s Work with our hands.



The 2025-2026 Sunday School year will kick off on Rally Day, Sunday, September 7, at 9:00 A.M. We will be

creating puzzle pieces to put together and create a puzzle church. The puzzle will be displayed in the Fellowship Hall. See you in Sunday School!.

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**BLESSING  
of the  
BACKPACKS**

On Sunday, September 7, we will have the Blessing of the Backpacks during the children’s sermon at the 10:15 A.M. service. All students and teachers are invited to bring their backpacks, laptop bags, or tote bags to church.

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**CONFIRMATION CLASS**



All 7th & 8th grade students are invited to participate in this year's Confirmation Class. Students and parents should plan to attend the class’s introductory meeting

on Sunday, September 7, at 9:00 AM in the church sanctuary. This meeting will provide an overview of the class material and any additional requirements that students are responsible to complete throughout the year.

Confirmation classes will then be held on Sundays, from 9:15 A.M. to 10:00 A.M.

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**SEPTEMBER COMMUNITY LUNCHEON**



Our community luncheons resume again on Sunday, September 7, after our summer break. Last season we served over 1,000 meals.

The September meal will be turkey BBQ, hamburger BBQ, filling, gravy, vegetables, salad, rolls, and dessert. Donations of baked items would be greatly appreciated. Hope to see you there!

Brian & Debbie Geiger

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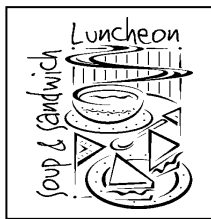


W.I.S.H. (Women Involved with Sharing & Helping) will have a brief meeting on Sunday, September 14, at 11:15 A.M. (following the 10:15 A.M. service) in the church office to discuss this year's walk-in basket social. All are welcome to attend.

If you cannot attend the meeting but are interested in helping at the basket social on Sunday, November 9, please call the church office at 610-767-6361.

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**SEPTEMBER SOUP, SANDWICH,  
& BAKED LASAGNA DINNER SALE**



The Catering Committee is sponsoring a soup, sandwich, and PA Dutch corn pie sale for September. Orders are due on Sunday, September 14. Pick-up times will be between 9:00 and

11:00 A.M. on Saturday, September 20, in the Fellowship Hall. The menu is: (Take Out Only)

o *Triple Stacker Sandwich* – Thinly sliced roast turkey, roast beef, baked ham, crisp bacon, and provolone cheese stacked on a pretzel roll. Comes with ranch dressing.  
Price – \$6.50 each.

o *Heat & Eat Dinner* – Baked meat lasagna with sauce served with a tossed salad & dressing packet, a dinner roll & butter, and a slice of pumpkin pie for dessert.  
Price – \$12.00 each.

o *Bacon Cheeseburger Chowder* – Fresh ground beef sauteed with diced onions, red & green bell peppers, garlic, and bacon. Blend in flour, milk, hearty beef broth, and diced potatoes. Finish it off with shredded cheddar cheese.  
Price – \$7.50 per quart.

o *Home-Style Cream of Mushroom Soup* – A blend of diced onions and sliced mushrooms sauteed in butter. Thicken with flour. Blend in hearty chicken broth and half & half cream. Season with black pepper, salt, and sherry.  
Price – \$7.50 per quart.

o *Manhattan Clam Chowder* – Sauté diced celery, diced onions, diced red & green peppers, and chopped clams. Blend in clam juice, diced potatoes, diced tomatoes, parsley, oregano, black pepper, Old Bay seasoning, and tomato sauce.  
Price – \$8.50 per quart.

To order soup, sandwiches, or baked meat lasagna dinner, please fill out the order slip below and either mail or drop off to the church by Sunday, September 14. You can also call your order into the church office at 610-767-6361, call Harrison Williams at 610-216-4284, or e-mail Harrison at [williamshj2514@msn.com](mailto:williamshj2514@msn.com).

**September Soup, Sandwich, and Baked Lasagna  
Dinner Sale Order Blank**

(soup pints available upon request)

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

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Triple Stacker Sandwich  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$6.50 each \_\_\_\_\_

Heat & Eat Baked Lasagna Dinner  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$12.00 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Bacon Cheeseburger Chowder  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7.50 quart = \_\_\_\_\_

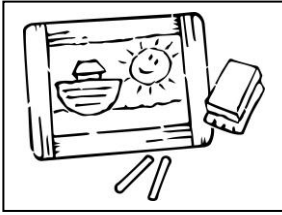
Home-Style Cream of Mushroom Soup  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7.50 quart = \_\_\_\_\_

Manhattan Clam Chowder  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.50 quart = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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## SIDEWALK CHALK CONTEST



On Sunday, September 28, the Sunday School students will divide into teams and draw pictures of Bible stories on the sidewalks in front of church.

Parents and congregation members will vote for their favorites as they arrive/leave church. Prizes will be handed out during the 10:15 A.M. church service on Sunday, November 9, when the children sing in church.

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## HARVEST HOME SCHEDULED

Our annual Harvest Home celebration is scheduled for Sunday, September 28.



St. John's will have an opportunity to provide needed items for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank. Financial contributions are also welcome. Members will be asked to place

their gifts in special baskets in the narthex when they arrive at church. Members of the Worship and Music Committee will provide a special harvest display. Join us for this special celebration!

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## COFFEE HOURS



We plan to resume coffee hours again this fall here at St. John's. The first coffee hour will be held on Sunday, October 5, at 9:00 A.M. in the

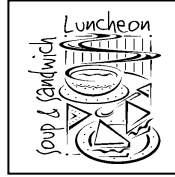
Fellowship Hall. Coffee hours will be held the first Sunday of the month if there are people willing to bake. Hosts and hostesses are needed each month.

Please sign the coffee hour sign-up sheet at the rear of the church if you are willing to help provide baked goods for one of the coffee hours. The coffee and paper products are provided by the Catering Committee.

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## OCTOBER SOUP AND SANDWICH SALE

### NEED UPDATED DATE



The Catering Committee is sponsoring a soup and sandwich sale on Saturday, October 18. Pick-up times will be between 9:00 and 11:00 A.M. in the Fellowship Hall. The menu is: (Take Out Only)

o Grilled Chicken Ranch Club on a Kaiser Roll – Grilled marinated chicken breast with lettuce, sliced red onion, sliced tomatoes, sliced provolone cheese, crispy bacon, and ranch dressing all stacked on a Kaiser roll.

Price – \$6.50 each.

o Roast Beef French Dip Sandwich – Sliced tender roast beef and sliced provolone cheese stacked on a hearty steak roll with au jus and horseradish sauce on the side.

Price – \$6.50 each.

o Amish Chicken Corn Chowder – A blend of diced celery, diced onions, shredded carrots, and cut sweet corn sautéed in butter. Thicken with flour. Blend in a hearty chicken broth and diced tender chunks of chicken. Season with black pepper and parsley flakes. Add whole milk and extra wide egg noodles for a delicious chicken corn chowder.

Price – \$7.50 per quart.

o Halupki (Stuffed Cabbage) Soup – Sauté ground beef, garlic, onions, and green cabbage. Blend with a hearty beef broth, diced tomatoes, tomato sauce, salt, black pepper, and tender rice.

Price – \$7.50 per quart.

o Seafood Bisque – Sauté diced celery, diced onions, crab meat, scallops, shrimp, and white fish in butter. Thicken with flour. Add whole milk and cream. Blend in good seafood stock, black pepper, salt, paprika, parsley, sherry, and tomato sauce.

Price – \$8.50 per quart.

To order soup or sandwiches, please fill out the order slip in the next column and either mail or drop off to the church by Sunday, October 12. You can also call your order into the church office at 610-767-6361, call Harrison Williams at 610-216-4284, or e-mail the order to Harrison at [williamshj2514@msn.com](mailto:williamshj2514@msn.com).

**October Soup & Sandwich Sale Order Blank**

(soup pints available upon request)

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

Phone #: \_\_\_\_\_

Grilled Chicken Ranch Club on a Kaiser Roll  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$6.50 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Roast Beef French Dip Sandwich  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$6.50 each = \_\_\_\_\_

Amish Chicken Corn Chowder  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7.50 per quart = \_\_\_\_\_

Halupki (Stuffed Cabbage) Soup  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$7.50 per quart = \_\_\_\_\_

Seafood Bisque  
\_\_\_\_\_ @ \$8.50 per quart = \_\_\_\_\_

Total Due \$ \_\_\_\_\_

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**CHURCH BUILDING HOURS**



The church office is open daily Monday through Friday from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. (except for major holidays or vacation times).

The church building will be unlocked from Monday through Saturday from 9:00 A.M. to 3:00 P.M. and in the evenings when there are meetings in the church building. The church also will be open Sunday mornings for the Sunday church services. Anyone needing to get into the church building other than the above times, should call the church office at 610-767-6361 to make arrangements.

*When Sharon is alone in the office, the church doors, including the glass doors by the office, will be locked. There is a doorbell outside the brown doors that you may ring to gain access to the building.*

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**INSTANT POTATO DONATIONS NEEDED FOR HOLIDAY MEALS**



The Northern Lehigh Food Bank was formed in 1987 to help families in our community who need assistance in feeding their family. The need to feed local families is still great in the Northern Lehigh area.

Each church has been given one item for the Thanksgiving meal baskets. Our church's responsibility is 200 bags/boxes of instant potatoes. ***Donations for the Thanksgiving baskets are needed at church by Thursday, November 13*** (basket distribution is Saturday, November 15). There are about 200 food bank families who will receive meals for the holidays.

***Donations for the Christmas baskets are needed at church by Thursday, December 11*** (basket distribution will be on Saturday, December 13).

We will be collecting the boxes/bags of instant potatoes here at St. John's Lutheran Church until the due dates, because there is no room at the food bank to store everything.

If you wish to donate a turkey or a ham, your donation is welcome, but you need to hold it at your home until closer to Thanksgiving and/or Christmas or call the Northern Lehigh Food Bank at 610-767-9525 to get it there.

Financial donations are always needed and welcome for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank!

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**CHECK YOUR E-MAIL**



Make sure to check your e-mail every Friday for the weekly e-update from St. John's. If you do not receive our weekly e-update, give us your e-mail address and we will add you to the list. Send information to [stjohnslatington@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslatington@gmail.com). Also check St. John's out on Facebook.

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*Christmas Eve*  
**WORSHIP**

We are planning our Christmas Eve services for 2025. We are looking into alternative times for these services and would like the congregation's input on this matter.

Please indicate your preference for service times. The choices are as follows:

- 5:00 and 8:00 P.M.
- 6:00 and 9:00 P.M.
- 7:00 and 10:00 P.M.

Other suggestions on enhancing the services would be appreciated.

Pick up a sheet in the back of the church and select your preference, leave a message with Sharon in the church office (610-767-6361) or email us at [stjohnslatington@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslatington@gmail.com). Please return the survey by Sunday, October 12.

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**PASTORAL ACTS**



*Miriam A. Kuntz*  
6-7-2025

*Frank Andrew Halkias*  
6-12-2025

*Brian David Semmel*  
7-18-2025

*Catherine Elaine Geiger*  
8-7-2025

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**Donations to the Breakfast Bunch**

In Memory of the following loved ones:

*Rodney Humanick & Cindy Davis*  
from Linda Humanick

*Brian Semmel* from the following:  
Burlene Balliet  
Roseanne Pugh

**Donations to the Current Fund**

In Memory of the following loved ones:

*Catherine Geiger* from the following:  
Jeffrey & Christine Borger  
Rev. Richard Hinkle  
John & Diane Hough  
Daniel & Shirley Messinger  
Mr. & Mrs. Chad Miller  
Mr. & Mrs. Clarence Smith  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Stehly  
Jon & Greta Weaver

*Miriam Kuntz* from the following:  
Carol Miller  
Mr. & Mrs. Chad Miller  
Second Chance Shoppe  
Mr. & Mrs. Stephen Stehly  
Mr. & Mrs. Ed Stephen

*Judy Shiner* from Carol Miller

:

**Donations to the Memorial Fund**

In Memory of the following loved ones:

*Father, Charles L. Hielman*  
from Mary Ann Sellers

*Miriam Kuntz* from Mr. & Mrs. Lee Kreidler

**Donations to the Organ Fund**

In Memory of *Catherine Geiger*  
from Gloria Martin

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# Celebrating

*An Anniversary This Month*

- Richard and Barbara Fox  
56th on September 6
- Harrison and Kathy Williams  
54th on September 18
- Jeffrey and Barbara Green  
50th on September 13
- Kerry and Melissa Haydt  
50th on September 20
- James and Trudy Marcucci  
46th on September 1
- Charles and Sandra Maurer  
46th on September 15
- Barton and Terri Behler  
41st on September 29
- David and Christine Sigley  
35th on September 8
- Doug and Fawn Albert  
34th on September 7
- Harold and Sandra Greene  
31st on September 24
- Norman and Dodi Handwerk  
30th on September 9
- Terry and Heather Rehrig  
25th on September 16
- Timothy and Jamie Yeich  
25th on September 20
- Christopher and Hayley Jones  
20th on September 17
- Brian and Sandra Schaffer  
18th on September 22
- Allen and Jennifer Hedmeck  
13th on September 8
- Patrick and Cassandra Brennand  
12th on September 28
- Stephen and Rosalie Rupert  
12th on September 28
- Justin and Kayla Molitoris  
8th on September 2
- Terry and Jennifer Eschbach  
7th on September 2
- Brian and Heather Tompkins  
7th on September 15
- Brandon and Julia Miller  
2nd on September 9
- Wayne & Stacy Rauch  
2nd on September 16

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## Look who's having a **Birthday!**

### Birthday Greetings are extended to our "80 & Over" Group Members

*Eleanor Eschbach* (Palmerton) celebrating her 94th birthday on September 2.

*Nancy Henninger* (Slatington) celebrating her 81st birthday on September 8.

*Karen Buss* (Slatington) celebrating her 81st birthday on September 11.

*Barbara Campbell* (Allentown) celebrating her 80th birthday on September 22.

*Doris Snyder* (Hurst TX) celebrating her 87th birthday on September 24.

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### MASTER CALENDAR OF EVENTS



A master calendar of all events held on the church premises is retained in the church office to avoid double booking the available rooms in the church and ensure the building is unlocked. Please call and talk to Sharon in the church office (610-767-6361) to make sure the building is available for use.

Do **NOT** mark the event on the calendar posted on the bulletin board across from the church office; Sharon will mark dates on that calendar so there are no conflicts and people can see what is happening.

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## THANK YOU NOTES



Thank you to our “lawn rangers” who cut the grass at the church and at the parsonage this summer: Isaac Raber, Connor & Lauri McWilliams, and Paul & Angela Shoenberger.

- o Thank you to Stephanie Beers for planting the geraniums in the flower beds at church.
- o Thank you to Stephanie Beers and Sue Freed for weeding the flower beds at church.
- o Thank you to everyone who donated juice boxes, jello, and pudding for the Northern Lehigh Food Bank kids’ packs. We needed 150 of each item and received 170 jello packs, 188 juice boxes, and 176 pudding packs! Thank you for your continued generosity for the food bank clients!
- o Thank you to Brian and Debbie Geiger for delivering the kids pack donations and school supplies to the food bank.
- o Thank you to the Cheryl Burke, Lynne Fedorcha, Jackie Kuba, Ruthann Mantz, and Kayleigh Snyder for leading worship this summer.
- o Thank you to the Catering Committee and Second Chance Shoppe for donating to the Current Fund to help pay the taxes and other expenses.

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Dear St. John’s Lutheran Church,

The Slatington Fire Department and Slatington Emergency Management would like to thank the congregation for assisting us on July 7, 2025, at the fire at 627 and 635 Main Street, where your church provided a temporary evacuation shelter. You kept the fire victims comfortable by providing comfort, providing food and drinks, and a nice cool environment. It was very hot outside, especially for the infant, children, adults, and their cats and dogs. It was so nice that you took them over to the Second Chance Store to get items to help them. God bless all of you for your thoughtfulness. I really enjoyed getting to talk to all of your members. You made me feel like I was at home. I was very impressed how well behaved the pets were in the social hall. The Red Cross was very

impressed in everything that your church family did for these fire victims.

I can never praise God enough for having such a great congregation such as St. John’s Lutheran Church for providing a helping hand to our community and our neighboring communities. God Bless.

Respectfully yours,  
Ronald Hausman  
Slatington E.M.A. Director

-----  
Dear Ringer Family,

I am sincerely grateful for the incredible opportunity to be awarded this scholarship, which will have a meaningful impact on my educational journey. Thanks to your generosity, I am able to continue pursuing a degree in Criminal Justice at Penn State University which is a goal that is very important to me. I truly appreciate the support of those involved in selecting scholarship recipients, and am honored that my hard work and achievements have been recognized. This scholarship not only lightens my financial burden but also motivates me to keep striving for excellence. Thank you once again for your generosity and belief in my potential. Your support will make a lasting difference in my academic and professional future.

Sincerely,  
Colby Rehrig

-----  
Dear St. John’s at Slatington,

My husband, the Rev. LeRoy Reitz, a Slatington native, passed away in early May. We have been recipients of your “Heartbeat” newsletter and have always so appreciated following your church and its activities. Your congregation appears to be rich in service and quite active. Following your meal selections has been fascinating and we always wished we lived closer. Congratulations to all your members serving the Lord. Just wanted to let you know that you have been an encouragement to far and wide to stay the course in service to our Lord.

God’s Blessings,  
Linda Decker Reitz

**THANK YOU NOTES** (continued)

Ringer Scholarship Committee,

Thank you so much for the scholarship from the Ringer foundation. It will be very useful I helping me and my family with this year’s tuition, so I can continue my education at Bloomsburg University.

Emma Snyder

-----  
Dear Members of St. John’s,

Thank you to everyone who donated food items and monetary gifts towards my Girl Scout Gold Award project. My project was a success, and I’m excited to assist the Weekend Bunch in carrying on my project next year.

Sincerely,  
Ariana Williams

-----  
A Heartfelt Thanks from VBS!

The Christian Education committee would like to offer our heartfelt thanks to everyone who helped us successfully carry on this important tradition! Crew leaders & helpers, station leaders & helpers, decoration creators, photographers, and anyone who donated decoration and/or snack supplies, the people who helped take all of the decorations down, and of course, the parents who brought their children. The 52 children enthusiastically participated in music, crafts, Bible stories, Imagination Station, recess, and snacks. The week concluded with a program where the children enthusiastically sang their favorite songs. After the program, everyone enjoyed the hot dog roast and ice cream party.

Stop by the bulletin boards in the Sunday School hallway and Fellowship Hall this fall to see pictures of all the fun.

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**BREAKFAST BUNCH**



Breakfast Bunch 2025 was again a big success, once again surpassing the previous year . We served a total of 110 different people, a total of 3,379 meals. This is 430 more meals than last year in 10 weeks instead of the 11 weeks in 2024. The meals were prepared and served by 52 volunteers (including eight youth) who worked a total of 845 hours.

This year we had:

- Lunch Meat Mondays
- Pancake Tuesdays and Thursdays
- Egg Wednesdays
- Crafting Fridays with Miss Cheryl

A heartfelt thank you to the following:

- Brian Geiger for the weekly trips for supplies and for pinch hitting for the Pancake Kings when necessary.
- Josh Kluever, the original Pancake King, and his successor Dennis Rehrig for making pancakes on Tuesdays and Thursdays.
- Jill Schaffer for making eggs to order on Wednesdays.
- Cheryl Burke for crafting with the children every Friday.
- The Thrivent members who applied for and obtained \$250 action team grants.
- To our weekly coordinators: Karen Kistler, Jodi Kocher, and Hali Kuntz.
- Everyone who answered our call for donations of cookies, snacks, juice boxes, etc.
- Everyone who donated money to the Breakfast Bunch and finally to the 52 volunteers who devotedly spent 845 hours making sure God’s children were fed.

All of these efforts allowed the children to enjoy their summer break without the gnawing feeling of hunger!

\*\*\*\*\*

**ELECTRONIC GIVING**

Enjoy the convenience of electronic giving which allows you to make donations on a scheduled automatic basis. If you are writing checks and preparing envelopes every week, you will enjoy electronic giving. It is convenient for you and provides much needed donation consistency for St. John's.



To get started, simply scan the QR code above with your smart phone. It will take you to our mobile online giving page. Create a profile and log in to set up automatic donations from a checking/savings account or credit/debit account. If you need further information, we can connect you to someone who presently uses on-line giving.

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**HOSPITALIZATIONS**



Please call the church office (610-767-6361) whenever a family member, neighbor, or friend who is a member of St. John's is hospitalized

or moves from one hospital to another or to a rehab facility. Due to stricter privacy laws, hospitals do *not* notify the church when a member is admitted to the hospital. Please give the hospitals our church code of "290" when being admitted. As the two hospital networks have grown, we do not get names even when calling with our church code. Please call the church to keep us informed of any hospitalizations so we keep people in our prayers.

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**CHURCH EQUIPMENT SIGN-OUTS**



Anyone wanting to borrow church equipment (tables, chairs, coffee pots, etc.) for any outside events must call the church office at

610-767-6361 to reserve the equipment ahead of the date the equipment is needed. When picking up the equipment, you must sign out the borrowed equipment on the sign-out sheet in the office.

When returning the equipment, please sign your name with the date the equipment was returned.

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**MOVING?**



If you are moving, or have just moved, please notify the church office of your new address and phone number

so that our records are accurate. We do receive address corrections from the post office *at a fee*. Help us keep mailing costs down by giving us address changes before you move. Orange slips are also available in the back of the church to update your address/phone information. Please keep us updated on contact numbers as more people are going to cell phones only. Please place your completed orange slip in the offering plate or drop it off in the church office.

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**ALUMINUM TABS**



Aluminum tabs that are collected here at St. John's Lutheran Church benefit the Shriners Hospital for Children which provides free medical care.

No child is turned away because of the inability to pay at a Shriners Hospital. If you know of a child that needs medical care, contact any Shriner for more information. Continue to bring tabs to St. John's for pick up. Clarence Smith collects the tabs for the Shriners Hospital.

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**REDNER'S TAPES**

Thank you to everyone who turns in their tapes from Redner's Markets for the Sav-A-Tape program. The money earned from this program has helped to fund the cost of supplies for our coffee hours over the years and will help fund the thinking-of-you baskets. If you do not have a Sav-A-Tape card, you can get a card on your next visit to any Redner's store. The same card is scanned for the Sav-A-Tape program and the gas points. The card can be scanned anytime during your checkout process. Please continue to support the Sav-A-Tape program by turning in your entire Redner's receipts.

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# \$\$\$FINANCIAL INFORMATION\$\$\$

MAY 2025					
DATE	CHURCH ATTENDANCE	OFFERING		CURRENT FUND	BUILDING FUND
5-4	19 + 47	\$ 2,755.25	April 30 Balance	(\$ 3,603.93)	\$ 3,811.63
5-11	36 + 77	1,953.23	May Income	* 25,729.87	25.00
5-18	29 + 49	1,409.00	May Expenses	17,580.17	1,925.79
5-25	18 + 44	1,632.63	May 31 Balance	\$ 4,545.77	\$ 1,910.84
	<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$ 7,750.11</b>			

\* May income includes \$10,000 from Mildred Hetzer interest income and \$8,000 from Second Chance Shoppe to help with Current Fund shortage and expenses.

Offering for Operational Expenses Through May 2025	
Needed Each Week	\$ 4,108.32
Average Weekly Received	\$ 2,201.14 / \$ 4,963.05
Budgeted to Date	\$ 86,274.72
Received to Date	\$ 46,223.95 / \$ 104,223.95
Expenses to Date	\$ 102,727.22
Income-to-Date vs. Expenses-to-Date	(\$ 56,503.27) / \$ 1,496.73

\*\*\*\* SEE NOTE BELOW.

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| JUNE 2025 |                   |                    |                 |               |               |
|-----------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| DATE      | CHURCH ATTENDANCE | OFFERING           |                 | CURRENT FUND  | BUILDING FUND |
| 6-1       | 18 + 106 *        | \$ 1,651.00        | May 31 Balance  | \$ 4,545.77   | \$ 1,910.84   |
| 6-8       | 103               | 1,967.00           | June Income     | 8,010.60      | 25.00         |
| 6-15      | 44                | 1,348.10           | June Expenses   | 17,139.45     | 934.00        |
| 6-22      | 49                | 1,566.00           | June 30 Balance | (\$ 4,583.08) | \$ 1,001.84   |
| 6-29      | 99                | 1,474.00           |                 |               |               |
|           | <b>Totals</b>     | <b>\$ 8,006.10</b> |                 |               |               |

\* June 1 was the last Sunday with two services. One service at 9:00 A.M. started on June 8.

| Offering for Operational Expenses Through June 2025 |                                |
|-----------------------------------------------------|--------------------------------|
| Needed Each Week                                    | \$ 4,108.32                    |
| Average Weekly Received                             | \$ 2,085.94 / \$ 4,316.71      |
| Budgeted to Date                                    | \$ 106,816.32                  |
| Received to Date                                    | \$ 54,234.55 / \$ 112,234.55   |
| Expenses to Date                                    | \$ 119,866.67                  |
| Income-to-Date vs. Expenses-to-Date                 | (\$ 65,632.12) / (\$ 7,632.12) |

\*\*\*\* Two sets of figures for "Income-to-Date vs. Expenses-to-Date" above indicate the following:

- (1) The left side is the difference between offering received and expenses paid to date, excluding \$50,000 from Mildred Hetzer Fund interest and \$8,000 from Second Chance Shoppe.
- (2) The right side is the different between offering received and expenses paid to date, including \$50,000 from Mildred Hetzer Fund interest and \$8,000 from Second Chance Shoppe.

# \$\$\$FINANCIAL INFORMATION\$\$\$

| JULY 2025     |                   |                    |                 |               |               |
|---------------|-------------------|--------------------|-----------------|---------------|---------------|
| DATE          | CHURCH ATTENDANCE | OFFERING           |                 | CURRENT FUND  | BUILDING FUND |
| 7-6           | 86                | \$ 2,571.63        | June 30 Balance | (\$ 4,583.08) | \$ 1,001.84   |
| 7-13          | 34                | 1,452.23           | July Income *   | 21,560.18     | 10,000.00     |
| 7-20          | 25                | 1,561.00           | June Expenses   | 17,697.25     | 2,217.50      |
| 7-27          | 25                | 918.00             | June 30 Balance | (\$ 720.15)   | \$ 8,809.34   |
| <b>Totals</b> |                   | <b>\$ 6,502.86</b> |                 |               |               |

\* \$15,000 was put into the Current Fund and \$10,000 into the Building Fund from the Mildred Hetzer Fund.

| Offering for Operational Expenses Through July 2025 |                                 |
|-----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------|
| Needed Each Week                                    | \$ 4,108.32                     |
| Average Weekly Received                             | \$ 2,026.49 / \$ 4,459.82       |
| Budgeted to Date                                    | \$ 123,249.60                   |
| Received to Date                                    | \$ 60,794.73 / \$ 133,794.73    |
| Expenses to Date                                    | \$ 137,563.92                   |
| Income-to-Date vs. Expenses-to-Date                 | (\$ 76,769.19) / (\$ 3,769.19 ) |

\*\*\*\* Two sets of figures for “Income-to-Date vs. Expenses-to-Date” above indicate the following:

- (1) The left side is the difference between offering received and expenses paid to date, excluding \$65,000 from Mildred Hetzer Fund interest and \$8,000 from Second Chance Shoppe.
- (2) The right side is the different between offering received and expenses paid to date, including \$65,000 from Mildred Hetzer Fund interest and \$8,000 from Second Chance Shoppe.

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# **SUNDAY SCHOOL PULSE**

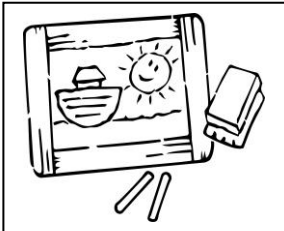
## **SEPTEMBER SCHEDULE –**

**September 7** — 9:00 A.M. – Rally Day – “Be a Part of the St. John’s Puzzle”.  
Preschool-High School – Make our church puzzle pieces.  
Confirmation class meeting with teachers and parents in the church.  
10:15 A.M. – Blessing of the Backpacks during the Children’s Sermon.  
11:30 A.M. to 1:00 P.M. – Community Dinner.

**September 14** — Preschool-Grade 6 – Regular lesson.  
Confirmation class in church office.  
High school class – Make new activity bags for church.

**September 21** — Preschool-Grade 6 – Research and Plan Sidewalk Chalk drawings.  
Confirmation class in church office.  
High school class – Plan Specials Sunday.

**September 28** — Preschool-Grade 6 – Sidewalk Chalk Contest.  
Confirmation class in church office.  
High school class – Help with Sidewalk Chalk Contest.



**SIDEWALK CHALK CONTEST** – On Sunday, September 28, the Sunday School students will divide into teams and draw pictures of Bible stories on the sidewalks in front of church. Parents and congregation members will vote for their favorites as they arrive/leave church. Prizes will be handed out during the 10:15 A.M. church service on Sunday, November 9, when the children sing in church.

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR SUNDAY SCHOOL FRIENDS**

|                  |             |                    |              |
|------------------|-------------|--------------------|--------------|
| Nathias Schaffer | September 2 | Chelsy Rehrig      | September 15 |
| Lucas Press      | September 4 | Emma Farrell       | September 18 |
| Jordan Rehrig    | September 5 | Victoria Henritzky | September 30 |
| Chloe Ziegler    | September 7 |                    |              |

## **HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO OUR CRADLE ROLL MEMBERS**

Jonah Sigley on September 7 (1 year old)  
Arthur Sipos on September 11 (1 year old)  
Haven Sipos on September 21 (1 year old)

**If you are celebrating a birthday or anniversary and are not included in our regular listing each month, it is because we do not have the information. Please call the church office (610-767-6361) or e-mail us at [stjohnslatington@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslatington@gmail.com) to keep us informed.**

# SYNOD NEWS

# WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS – SEPTEMBER 2025

## ONLY ONE SERVICE AT 10:15 A.M. IN SEPTEMBER

| Date                         | Service    | Acolyte/<br>Bellringer | Altar Guild                        | Camera<br>Operator | Communion<br>Assistants          | Lector        | Ushers                                                     |
|------------------------------|------------|------------------------|------------------------------------|--------------------|----------------------------------|---------------|------------------------------------------------------------|
| September 7<br>Rally Sunday  | 10:15 A.M. | Chloe Ziegler          | Stephanie Beers                    | Gabriel Ziegler    |                                  | Jodi Kocher   | Doug Keichel (DIC), Lynne Fedorcha,<br>& Jodi Kocher       |
| September 14                 | 10:15 A.M. | Elaina Ray             | Erin Snyder                        | Jayden Rehrig      |                                  | Jackie Kuba   | Erin Snyder (DIC), Dennis Rehrig,<br>& Ken Staller         |
| September 21 (C)             | 10:15 A.M. | Kylee Truett           | Stephanie Beers<br>& Sharon Stehly | Dawson Newhard     | Ruthann Mantz<br>& Sharon Stehly | Cheryl Burke  | Scott Raber (DIC), Debbie Cunfer,<br>& Ronnie Humanick     |
| September 28<br>Harvest Home | 10:15 A.M. | Izabella Snyder        | Jill Schaffer                      | Devon Sabene       |                                  | Ruthann Mantz | Harrison Williams (DIC), Ruthann<br>Mantz, & Sharon Stehly |

**It is your responsibility to find a replacement if you cannot serve on a Sunday and notify the church office at 610-767-6361 or e-mail at [stjohnslatington@gmail.com](mailto:stjohnslatington@gmail.com) of the change by Thursday.**



# SEPTEMBER 2025

| Sunday                                                                                                                                                                                                       | Monday                                                                                   | Tuesday                                            | Wednesday                                         | Thursday                                              | Friday                                 | Saturday                                            |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------------|---------------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------|
| <b>8/31 12th Sunday after Pentecost</b><br>9:00 Service of the Word<br>6:00 N.L. Pool Meeting<br>8:00 A.A.                                                                                                   | <b>1 Labor Day</b><br><br><b>CHURCH BUILDING CLOSED</b>                                  | <b>2</b>                                           | <b>3</b><br><br>10:00 Chair Yoga                  | <b>4</b><br><br>8:00 A.A.                             | <b>5</b><br><br>9:30 Sewing            | <b>6</b>                                            |
| <b>7 13th Sunday after Pentecost Rally Sunday</b><br>9:00 Sunday School-Rally Day / Confirmation Meeting<br>10:15 Service of the Word<br>11:30-1:00 Community Lunch<br>8:00 A.A.                             | <b>8</b>                                                                                 | <b>9</b><br><br>11:00 Second Chance Shoppe Meeting | <b>10</b><br><br>10:00 Chair Yoga<br>7:00 Choir   | <b>11 Patriot Day</b><br><br>5:00 IMPACT<br>8:00 A.A. | <b>12</b><br><br>9:30 Sewing           | <b>13</b>                                           |
| <b>14 14th Sunday after Pentecost God's Work, Our Hands Sunday</b><br><i>Soup &amp; Sandwich Orders Due</i><br>9:00 Sun. School/Confirmation<br>10:15 Service of the Word<br>11:15 WISH Meeting<br>8:00 A.A. | <b>15</b><br>6:30 Slatington Women's Club<br><b>October/November Newsletter Deadline</b> | <b>16</b>                                          | <b>17</b><br><br>10:00 Chair Yoga<br>7:00 Choir   | <b>18</b><br><br>8:00 A.A.                            | <b>19 St. John's 157th Anniversary</b> | <b>20</b><br><br>9:00-11:00 Soup & Sandwich Pick-up |
| <b>21 15th Sunday after Pentecost Autumn Begins</b><br>9:00 Sunday School / Confirmation<br>10:15 Holy Communion<br>8:00 A.A.                                                                                | <b>22</b>                                                                                | <b>23</b>                                          | <b>24</b><br><br>10:00 Chair Yoga<br>7:00 Choir   | <b>25</b><br><br>5:00 IMPACT<br>8:00 A.A.             | <b>26</b>                              | <b>27</b>                                           |
| <b>28 16th Sunday after Pentecost Harvest Home</b><br>9:00 Sunday School-Sidewalk Chalk Decorating / Confirmation<br>10:15 Service of the Word<br>6:00 N.L. Pool Meeting<br>8:00 A.A.                        | <b>29</b>                                                                                | <b>30</b>                                          | <b>10/1</b><br><br>10:00 Chair Yoga<br>7:00 Choir | <b>10/2</b><br><br>8:00 A.A.                          | <b>10/3</b><br><br>9:30 Sewing         | <b>10/4</b>                                         |



