

The Eagle



August 2022

New Series Volume MMXXII – *No.* 8 2022

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

a reconciling in Christ congregation

330 Ferry Street, Easton, PA 18042

Pastor: The Reverend Susan D. Ruggles

Vicar: Vanessa Storlie

Director of Music: Jessica Madow

phone: 610-258-6119

e-mail: Admin@stjohnseaston.org

website: stjohnseaston.org



From the Pastor . . . August 2022

I saw a commercial on television that stated summer had 93 days. When I looked it up, google confirmed. I've always felt that August brought an end to summer and every year around this time I find myself reflecting on what I have left unfinished, what jobs still need to be done, what tasks I have to complete . . . The truth is, a lot was accomplished because the days, although long went fast and projects were completed and a sense of joy and content was had.

In the movie, "The Bucket List" directed by Rob Reiner, two characters, Carter and Edward, hear health news that puts their lives into perspective. They decide to make a "bucket list" or a list of things they want to accomplish in the time they have left.

*The men discuss faith and beliefs . . . one character says he doesn't really understand faith and envies when people have faith.

He is told something the ancient Egyptians taught that before going into heaven, two questions are asked and depending on the answer one goes into heaven or not. The questions are: (1) *Have you found joy in your life?* and (2) *Has your life brought joy to others?*

Our Christian understanding of life after death is life is a gift, grace given and not given by answering questions.

Take time to reflect knowing that time goes by fast, especially the days of summer and the days of our lives. Think about what we spend our time doing and if any good is comes from every day that is given to us.

Stephen Grellet, a missionary, is quoted "*I shall pass through this world but once. Any good therefore that I can do or any kindness that I can show to any human being, let me do it now. Let me not defer or neglect it, for I shall not pass this way again.*"

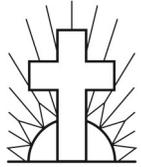
Let the rest of your summer matter! Pastor Sue

"God gave us the gift of life; it is up to us to give ourselves the gift of living well."

--Voltaire

Regular

Worship



Hours Return . . .
Sunday—August 28th, 2022
@ 10:30 am



(Church Picnic to follow . . .)

Church Picnic Join Us !

We're firing up the Grill . . .

*Sunday, August 28th @ 10:30 am
@ Penn Pump Park*

*Please bring a side dish
or dessert to share!*

*(Hosted by the
Membership
Committee)*



*Altar flower dedications / memorial
requests are needed for August 21, 28
and September 4, 11, 18 dates.*

*Please help us continue to beautify our
church with God's creation.*



Wondering about Covid19 ?

In **Northampton County, Pennsylvania**, community risk level is **Medium**, as of July 20, 2022. (WWW.CDC.GOV)

The CDC asks that you to take the following precautions:

- ◆ If you are [at high risk for severe illness](#), talk to your healthcare provider about whether you need to wear a mask and take other precautions.
- ◆ Stay [up to date](#) with COVID-19 vaccines.
- ◆ [Get tested](#) if you have symptoms.

People may choose to mask at any time. People with symptoms, a positive test, or exposure to someone with COVID-19 should wear a mask.

***If you are feeling ill, or under the weather,
stay home and get well. Know we will be thinking
of you and praying for your speedy recovery
and quick return to church.***

Thank you to all who helped with and who sent their children to VBS @ Good Shepherd this year. We had 9 kids and friends from St. John's who attended. Fun was had by all !!!



**Stay tuned for more fun
with our friends from United Lutheran
(formerly Good Shepherd.)*

Greetings,
people of
St. John's in
Easton!
My name is
Vanessa Storlie
and I will begin
serving as your
intern on
August 1.
I am entering my
final year of



seminary at Luther Seminary in St. Paul, Minnesota. I grew up in Clarks Grove, Minnesota, a rural farming community of about 800 people. Prior to seminary, I earned a Bachelor's Degree in Civil Engineering from the University of Minnesota - Twin Cities and a Master's in Civil Engineering from the University of Wyoming. In 2009, I started working as a civil engineer for a bridge engineering firm in Mechanicsburg, PA. I worked there for almost 11 years and was involved in nearly all aspects of bridge design, construction, inspection, evaluation, and repair. It took me about three years to acknowledge and accept that God was calling me to something besides bridge engineering. In 2018, I began the ELCA

Candidacy process and started seminary while still working full-time as an engineer. There's more to the story but I look forward to meeting you soon and seeing what God is already doing at St. John's!



August ~ 9:30 am Worship

Altar Guild: Sue Glenn / Carolyn Moyer

Aug. 7 Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Green
Reading: Luke 12:32-40
Reader: Chuck Lewis
Worship Assistant: Chris Orem
Comm. Assistants /Usher: Connie Garr / Joyce Petty

Aug. 14 Tenth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Green
Reading: Luke 12:49-56
Reader: Julia Cortright
Worship Assistant: Jim Heck
Comm. Assistants /Usher: Chris Orem / Sylvia Orem

Aug. 21 Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Green
Reading: Luke 13:10-17
Reader: John Fritchman
Worship Assistant: Joyce Petty
Comm. Assistants /Usher: Bob Black / Cindy Black

Aug. 28 Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost Church Picnic, (Penn Pump Park 10:30 a m)

Liturgical Color: Green
Reading: Luke 14:1,7-14
Reader: Nadine Anderson
Worship Assistant: Roger Ruggles
Comm. Assistants /Usher: Judi Kalapay / Linda Kalapay

Come Join Us—All are Welcome !
Invited and inviting—that is the nature of the church.
Therefore welcome one another as Christ has welcomed you,
for the glory of God. — Romans 15:7

Live Streaming Update . . .



The Pandemic created an opportunity for us to join together virtually to spread the news from the worship service and praise God in a different way.

We have live streamed the worship service most Sundays for some time now and at first had much success, and high attendance.

Going forward, the numbers of people tuning in to the live stream does not warrant continuing in this way. We will be video taping the service for those interested to watch at a later date, (we are aiming for availability on Tuesdays following Sunday worship.) Worship Services will be uploaded to our webpage for viewing at your convenience.

Feel free to contact the office with any questions or if you need instructions on how to view the worship services online..

AUGUST 2022

SUN	MON	TUE	WED
NO SUNDAY SCHOOL / ADULT FORUM DURING SUMMER	1	2	3 COUNCIL R
7 WORSHIP: @ 9:30 AM FOLLOWING WORSHIP: FINANCE—OFFICE	8 COUNCIL MEETING— CHAPEL 7:00 PM	9	10
14 WORSHIP: @ 9:30 AM FOLLOWING WORSHIP: MEMBERSHIP —CHAPEL EASTON PRIDE (12-7:00 PM)	15	16	17
21 WORSHIP @ 9:30 AM FOLLOWING WORSHIP: PROPERTY—OFFICE LEHIGH VALLEY PRIDE (12-6:00 PM)	22	23	24
28 CHURCH PICNIC PENN PUMP 10:30 AM (*NOTE TIME CHANGE)	29	30 	31

~ In the Gallery this month . . . ~

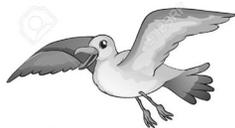
“Friends & Family of St. John’s”

SUNDAY JULY 17TH – AUGUST 21ST

PLEASE JOIN US!

Check out the creativity of our members and friends . . .





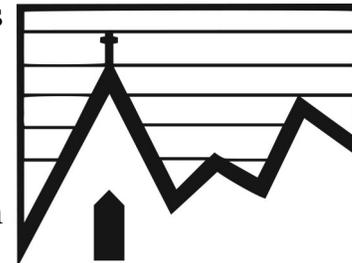
WED	THU	FRI	SAT
REPORTS DUE	4	5	6
	11 PRAYER GROUP 9:30 AM	12	13
	18	19 NEWSLETTER DEADLINE	20
	25 PRAYER GROUP 9:30 AM	26 NEWSLETTER FOLDING 9:30 AM	27
	28	29	30

**From the Financial Secretary:
Offering Report for First Six Months of 2022**

Some have commented on the offering dollars compared to the budget printed in the bulletin every week. It's true that the amounts fall a little further behind every week. We'd like to provide a little more detail on this to show where we may be headed at St John's.

Let's talk about the current offering line in the budget. The congregation approved the current envelope budget line item of \$114.05 for this year. This amount is second only to the endowment fund income budget line. So these two line items provide 92% of the income needed to operate and maintain the church and its mission.

At the end of the first half of 2022, current contributions totaled \$49,000. (We expected half of the current budget \$57,000.) Yes, it is possible to make up the difference in the income during the next six months! Last year the second six months of the year was better than the first. However, we need to keep in mind the ever increasing costs that we see and apply that to what's happening at St. John's. We know that prices for oil, gas, electricity, and repairs are increasing faster than anyone could expect. To compensate for this we need to put our foot on the gas to finish strong.



An analysis of the pattern of contributions of the church appears on the following page. The table lists the offerings for all members in groups of five. ←

**As always, Contributions can be
mailed to the church office @
330 Ferry Street, Easton, PA 18042**

	Current Contr. Jan -June '22	Percentage of Total Current	Average
			Weekly
			Contribution
Top Givers 1-5	\$ 22,500.00	45.9%	\$ 173.08
Next 5 Givers 6-10	\$ 6,800.00	13.9%	\$ 52.31
Next 5 Givers 11-15	\$ 4,705.00	9.6%	\$ 36.19
Next 5 Givers 16-20	\$ 3,535.00	7.2%	\$ 27.19
Next 5 Givers 21-25	\$ 2,773.00	5.7%	\$ 21.33
Next 5 Givers 26-30	\$ 1,930.00	3.9%	\$ 14.85
Next 5 Givers 31-35	\$ 1,627.00	3.3%	\$ 12.52
Next 5 Givers 36-40	\$ 1,343.15	2.7%	\$ 10.33
Next 5 Givers 41-45	\$ 1,098.00	2.2%	\$ 8.45
Next 5 Givers 46-50	\$ 800.00	1.6%	\$ 6.15
Next 5 Givers 51-55	\$ 627.00	1.3%	\$ 4.82
Next 5 Givers 56-60	\$ 505.00	1.0%	\$ 3.88
Next 5 Givers 61-65	\$ 390.00	0.8%	\$ 3.00
Next 5 Givers 66-70	\$ 242.00	0.5%	\$ 1.86
Next 5 Givers 70-75	\$ 134.00	0.3%	\$ 1.03
	\$ 49,009	100.0%	

You can see that the top five givers contributed \$22,500 in their current envelope so far this year. This was almost 46% of the total received and works out to an average \$173 per week for each of this group of five members. From there you can easily see that 82% of collected current funds came from 25 family units. That seems like a very small number to be shouldering a large load.

While we understand that all of our members are feeling the financial pressures of increasing expenses, please try to find a way to bump up to the next giver group. Better yet, encourage new people to attend church with you so that the load can be spread over more people.



~ SUNDAY SCHOOL ~

JOIN US ...

SEPTEMBER 4, 2022

@

BREAKFAST: 8:30 AM

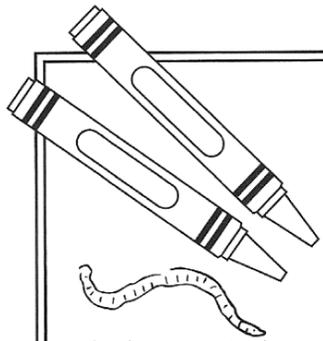
CLASSES: 9:00 AM

(ADULT FORUM MEETS IN THE GALLERY @ 9:00 AM)



SUNDAY SCHOOL NEWS

- ☆ SUNDAY SCHOOL YOUTH WHO ATTEND SUNDAY SCHOOL LAST YEAR, DON'T FORGET ABOUT THE CAMP SCHOLARSHIP (MAXIMUM \$100) TO PAY FOR ANY CAMPS YOU ATTENDED THIS SUMMER. DEADLINE TO APPLY, END OF AUGUST.
- ☆ WE ARE LOOKING FOR SOME YOUTH TO HELP WITH WORSHIP AT THE CHURCH PICNIC ON AUGUST 31. CONTACT PASTOR TODAY.
- ☆ INTERESTED IN HELPING TEACH A WEEK OR TWO? EVERYONE'S SCHEDULE IS SO COMPLICATED THAT WE ARE LOOKING FOR PEOPLE TO GIVE 2-3 WEEKS AND THEN ROTATE WITH A NEW TEACHER. PLEASE CONTACT THE CHURCH OFFICE.
- ☆ SUNDAY SCHOOL STARTS ON SEPTEMBER 4! WE ARE SO EXCITED TO BEGIN THIS YEAR OF BRINGING GOD'S WORD AND SERVICE TO OUR SUNDAY MORNING. STAY TUNED FOR EXCITING IDEAS FOR THE COMING YEAR.



Just for **KIDS**

Bugs in the Bible



Whether at a picnic, on the beach or playing outdoors, it seems like we're always joined by uninvited guests – bugs! Bugs and other little creatures are mentioned in the Bible.



Fill in the blanks with the little creatures mentioned in each verse. Circle them in the puzzle below.

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------------------|
| Proverbs 6:6 _____ | Exodus 16:20 _____ |
| Psalms 78:45 _____ | 1 Sam. 24:14 _____ |
| Matt. 23:24 _____ | Isaiah 50:9 _____ |
| Judges 14:8 _____ | Isaiah 59:5 _____ |
| Acts 12:23 _____ | Leviticus 11:22 _____ |
| Leviticus 11:22 _____ | Leviticus 11:22 _____ |
| Leviticus 11:22 _____ | |
| Deuteronomy 7:20 _____ | |



M O T H S G N A T B H
 A N T A L L C H P E O
 G R A S S H O P P E R
 G F C R I C K E T S N
 O L S P I D E R S B E
 T E C L O C U S T D T
 S A E F K A T Y D I D
 G F L I E S W O R M S

Answer: ant, flies, gnat, bees, worms, locust, grasshopper, hornet, maggots, flea, moths, spider, katydid, cricket



Birthdays

- 8/3—Ruth Chevalier
- 8/3— Sandra Eichlin
- 8/4—Alison White
- 8/15—Linda Americus
- 8/7—Ilsa VonLang
- 8/13 -Eleanor Gable
- 8/13—Dennis Greenleaf
- 8/13—Carolyn Sandt
- 8/15—Nadine Anderson
- 8/16—Julia Cortright
- 8/20—Susan Docker
- 8/21—Aaron Howey
- 8/25—Lynn Kutch
- 8/26—Curtis Olson
- 8/28—Barbara Hanson
- 8/30—Tim Richard
- 8/30—Carol Walters
- 8/30—Robin Woeppele
- 8/31—Ryan Betts

Anniversaries

- 8/24—Barbara & Les McCoy
- 8/30—Janel & Jacob Ruggles

(*If you were missed, please contact the church office.)

PRIDE 2022

JOIN US ...

PRIDE ON THE RIVERFRONT

WILL BE HELD IN EASTON
 ON:
 SUNDAY, AUGUST 14TH
 @ RIVERSIDE PARK
 NOON TO 7 PM

LEHIGH VALLEY PRIDE

WILL BE HELD AT:
 THE JEWISH COMMUNITY
 CENTER OF THE
 LEHIGH VALLEY,
 702 N. 22ND STREET—
 ALLENTOWN
 SUNDAY, AUGUST 21
 NOON TO 6 PM

(CONTACT NADINE ANDERSON FOR
 DETAILS OR TO VOLUNTEER...)

COMMUNITY NEWS:

2022 Lebanese Heritage Days 46th Annual Festival

Saturday, August 6th
5:00 pm - 12:00 Midnight

&

Sunday, August 7th
11:00 am - 10:00 pm

Reminder: St. John's Parking Lot will be open to the public for Lebanese Heritage Day as "Pay to Park".

- **Be on the lookout for a Volunteer Sign-Up Sheet for "Parking Attendants" needed for those days.**
- **This is a major fundraiser for the youth of the church.**

Thank you, and please consider volunteering!



AL-ANON MEETINGS:
WEDNESDAYS @ 10:00 AM
(FELLOWSHIP HALL)

(Al-Anon is a mutual support program for people whose lives have been affected by someone else's drinking.)

NA MEETINGS:
THURSDAYS @ 7:30 PM
(FELLOWSHIP HALL)

(NA is group of people for whom drugs had become a major problem. We are recovering addicts who meet regularly to help each other stay clean.)

ST JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
330 FERRY STREET
EASTON PA 18042-4539
610-258-6119
(ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED)

NON-PROFIT
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
EASTON PA
PERMIT #310

