

The Eagle



January 2021

New Series Volume MMXX1— No. 1, 2021

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

a reconciling in Christ congregation

330 Ferry Street, Easton, PA 18042

The Reverend Susan D. Ruggles, Pastor
Jessica Madow, Director of Music

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Newsletter Submissions to:
Newsletter@stjohnseaston.org



January, 2021

We celebrate the New Year at the beginning of January. Many are excited to close the door on 2020 and to begin 2021. A new year brings on expectation of promises, hope and beginnings. Of course, we rely on Christ for these throughout the calendar year. Each week, we can hear the Gospel proclaimed in worship. Each day we can read our Bibles and open devotion booklets. Every morning and night, we can lift up prayers in thanksgiving and in petition for promises, hopes and beginnings. Normally, I am not one to grasp onto resolutions when the calendar turns from Dec. 31 to Jan. 1. This year, I am reflecting on lessons from 2020 and deciding what I want to hold onto going into the new year. I read something that is said to be posted on a sign in Mother Teresa's children's home in Calcutta that might have some meaning to you . . .

Take Time

*Take time to think. Take time to pray. Take time to laugh.
It is the source of great intrigue. It is the greatest power on
earth. It is the music of the soul.*

Take time to play. Take time to love and be loved.

Take time to give.

It is the secret of perpetual youth. It is God's given privilege.

It is too short a day to be selfish.

Take time to read. Take time to be friendly.

Take time to work.

It is the fountain of wisdom. It is the road to happiness.

It is the price of success.

Take time to be charitable.

It is the key to a rewarding life.

Going into the year 2021, my wish for each of you is to take time to be with God in reading, in prayer and in service.

In HIS name,
Pastor Sue

Why all these Constitution & Bylaws Changes?

At the January 2020 Congregational Meeting we voted on and passed extensive updates to the constitution that had not been updated since 1997. Now we are providing you with more changes to update it again.

Why do all these updates matter? As a nonprofit organization St. Johns does not have to pay taxes on your contributions and you can use those contributions as tax deductions. We get that status through the national church, the Evangelical Lutheran Church in America (ELCA). They do the paperwork that is filed with the government. For that we need to have our documents match what they say they are, which is all the parts of the constitution that are marked required.

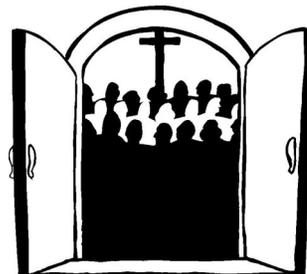
Some changes make things easier for members. For instance, with so many snowbirds in the church they have introduced a seasonal membership. If you spend a major part of the year in two different places and want to be fully involved in a congregation both places, you can now be a seasonal member in the second church.

At every Church Wide Assembly (CWA) some changes to constitutions are passed which congregations and synods are asked to incorporate. I was a voting member at the 2019 CWA. Pr. Sue, Roger Ruggles, Patsy Woodson, and other members of the congregation have been voting members at other CWAs.

When we sent in the constitution we updated in January 2020 they approved the changes based on the 2016 Model Constitution and we agreed to update it to the 2019 Model this year.

We have an additional change to the constitution to allow the vote for council members to be voice instead of written if the number of candidates is not more than the number of openings. We have a change to our bylaws because the Commonwealth of Pennsylvania requires nonprofit organizations to specify one meeting as the annual meeting, which we suggest be the January meeting.

- Nadine Anderson



**Congregational
MEETING**

Please join us January 31st 2021, for our Annual Congregational Meeting. All are welcome and encouraged to attend. The meeting will be held immediately after worship.

The meeting will be held via "Zoom" (information below) or in person in the Sanctuary. Please choose the method you are most comfortable with.

Join Zoom Meeting

[https://zoom.us/j/95765739507?](https://zoom.us/j/95765739507)
pwd=emdxZktoL3JwZnNIOWZGclFYai84QT09

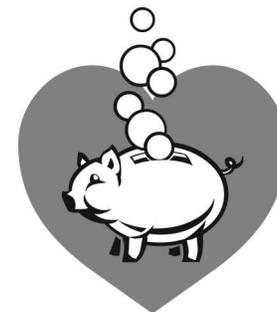
Meeting ID: 957 6573 9507
Passcode: stjohns

Dial by your location
+1 301 715 8592 US (Washington D.C)
+1 646 558 8656 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 957 6573 9507
Passcode: 4063611

Annual Committee Reports for the meeting are due to the church office by: Friday, January 8th, 2021

Contributions can
always be mailed to
the Church @
330 Ferry Street,
Easton, PA 18042





SOUPER BOWL OF CARING

Due to the current COVID situations, we will NOT be holding the “*Souper Bowl of Caring*” luncheon in February.

Instead . . . to help those in need, Outreach is asking for your support in donating cans of soup or other canned foods. All donations will benefit ProJeCt’s Food Pantry.

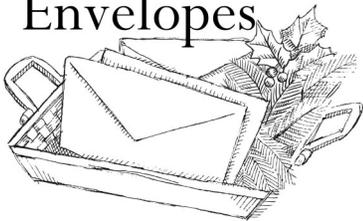
We will be collecting through February 7, 2021. Donations may be dropped off at church. If you prefer to make a monetary donation, you may do so.

We thank you for your support.

The Outreach Committee



2021 Envelopes



Please take time to pick up your offering envelopes for 2021. They are located in the Narthex. If you see a friend or neighbors box, please think about dropping their envelopes off to them.

Would you like to make an appointment for Holy Communion? We are still accommodating those who chose not to attend church due to Covid19.

Please call the office to set up a time.



January – 10:30 am Worship

January 3 *Second Sunday of Christmas*

Liturgical Color: White
Reading: John 1:1-18
Reader: John Fritchman
Worship Assistant: Roger Ruggles
Attendant / Usher: Wayne Docker / Michelle Fritzo

January 10 *Epiphany of our Lord*

Liturgical Color: White
Reading: Matthew 2:1-12
Reader: Alison White
Worship Assistant: Chris Orem
Attendant / Usher: Bob Black / Michelle Fritzo

January 17 *Second Sunday of Epiphany*

Liturgical Color: Green
Reading: John 1:43-51
Reader: Ian Heck
Worship Assistant: Jim Heck
Attendant / Usher: / Michelle Fritzo

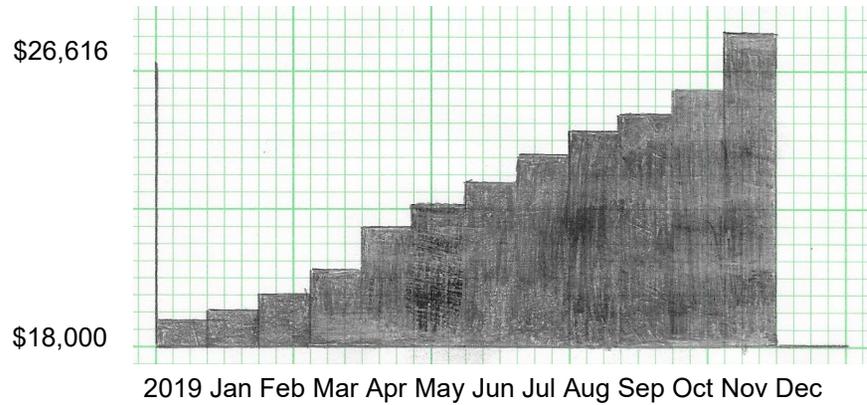
January 24 *Third Sunday after Epiphany*

Liturgical Color: Green
Reading: Mark 1:14-20
Reader: Larry Transue
Worship Assistant: Joyce Petty
Attendant / Usher: Aaron Howey / Michelle Fritzo

January 31 *Fourth Sunday after Epiphany*

Liturgical Color: Green
Reading: Mark 1:21-28
Reader: Wayne Docker
Worship Assistant: Roger Ruggles
Attendant / Usher: Jacob Ruggles / Michelle Fritzo

ORGAN RENOVATION CAPITAL CAMPAIGN



Even though you are reading this near the beginning of the year, I am writing at the beginning of December. The Organ Renovation Capital Campaign as of 30 November 2020 has reached \$26,616. We are on track to cross the \$27,000 mark by the end of our second year. Thank you!! We have said all along this Campaign is a marathon, not a sprint. With two-fifths of Campaign behind us, we have paced ourselves nicely. The pledges for the Campaign were \$42,000 of our goal of \$50,000. The pledges were important to help us know if our goal was reachable, but it is the unpledged gifts that will cause us to reach our goal. To the Pledgers, it is my prayer you are able and willing to continue with your commitment. A couple of you have been able to share beyond your commitment. To the Un-pledgers, as I said earlier, your gifts will allow us to reach our goal. Some of you have shared weekly or monthly. Gifts have been as small as \$2.00 and as large as \$1000. Each does what they are able. If you have not yet made a gift to the Campaign, may I encourage you to do so, so together we can celebrate the success of our Organ Renovation Capital Campaign. Again, thank you to all.
Steve Moyer, Treasurer



Sun	Mon	Tue	W
Church Worship: 10:30 am Sundays			
3 Finance Mtg. 12:00 pm	4	5	6 Council R Due
10 Membership Mtg. 12:00 pm	11 Council Meeting 7:00 pm	12	13
17 Property Mtg. & Outreach Mtg. 12:00 pm	18	19	20
24	25	26 Tuesday Bible Study—5:30 PM (book of Mark)	27
31 Annual Congregational Meeting—After Worship			

* all mee

2021

	Thu	Fri	Sat
		1	2
Reports	7	8 Annual Reports Due	9
	14 Prayer Group	15	16
	21	22	23
	28 Prayer Group	29 Thur. Bible Study—5:30 PM (the Epistles)	30
Meetings	are available	live or zoom	

2021 Council Officers

President—Bob Black
Vice President—Monica Weiss-Nolen
Secretary—Chris Orem
Treasurer—Steve Moyer
Financial Secretary—Rob Smith

2021—New Council Members

Brad Thomas
(replacement for Curt Olson)
 Robert Black
 Joyce Petty
 Monica Weiss-Nolen
 Roger Ruggles



The St. John's Staff would like to
T H A N K ,
 Everyone for a great year! To all the
 helpers, volunteers, dedicated members,
 the year wouldn't see the
 same without you!

By Helping Others . . . We Help Ourselves . . .

RIC Sunday January 31, 2021

RIC is an ecumenical community which welcomes people of all sexual orientations and gender identities and is celebrated in January each year on a Sunday designated, RIC Sunday. RIC stands for Reconciling in Christ.

Reconciling in Christ (RIC) is a program of ReconcilingWorks: Lutherans for Full Participation.

From the very beginning in 1974, ReconcilingWorks has provided safe space, a ministry of education, and advocacy toward moving the Lutheran church to be a more welcoming place.

Currently, ReconcilingWorks has recognized over 895 ministry settings (synods, seminaries, and colleges) as publicly and intentionally welcoming.

Additional information about the RIC program, including a complete listing of RIC settings and resources for personal and congregational use, are available on-line at the website www.reconcilingworks.org.

As Lutherans, we believe that every human being reflects the Divine, and that each of us is a child of God, beloved and wonderfully made, just as we are. Christ calls us to work with all of God's people. Christ also calls us to work for justice.



Outreach Committee *January* Benevolence

Please remember to support the following Organizations that are also in need. . . .

**Meals on Wheels of Northampton County
Safe Harbor
Back Pack Buddies
Family Connection**

As always, Outreach Thanks you for your support of these programs.

Bible Study

**Exciting conversations!
Opportunity to share in study of God's world.
Bible Studies! Come to as many as you can or as few as you desire!**

Tuesdays and Thursdays at 5:30 PM

Tuesday is the study of the Gospel of Mark

Thursday is the study of the epistles in the New Testament.

Either by ZOOM or in person in the chapel.

Meeting ID: 968 7627 3212
Passcode: Bible

(same code for either class).

St. John's Office Phone: 610-258-6119

Office Hours: by appointment

CONTACT information
Staff Directory

Staff	E-Mail
Pastor - Susan Ruggles	Pastor@stjohnseaston.org
Office / Admin. - Melissa Dean	Admin@stjohnseaston.org
Property Manager - Tyler VanAllen	Property@stjohnseaston.org
Director of Music - Jessica Madow	Music@stjohnseaston.org
Sexton - Michelle Fritzo	Sexton@stjohnseaston.org
Newsletter	Newsletter@stjohnseaston.org

(Phone and Email messages are checked daily.)

Pastor now has office hours: Tuesdays & Thursdays 4:00 pm, Please call the church office to set up an appointment with the Pastor.



Northeastern Pennsylvania Synod
Evangelical Lutheran Church in America
God's work. Our hands.

If you would like to read the Synod News.
Please find it online @:
www.nepasynod.org/publications/synod-news/.

Note: The Church Newsletter and Calendar are available online for your viewing.

Think about sending the link to a friend!

WWW.STJOHNSEASTON.ORG

If you would like to discontinue your paper copy delivery, please contact the church office. (610-258-6119)



Birthdays . . .

- 1/2—Jahsai Mack
- 1/7—Blasé Horinko
- 1/8—Helen Fritzo
- 1/13—Kiana Glenn
- 1/14—Anthony Pitt
- 1/15—Anne Fritchman
- 1/17—Wayne Docker
- 1/19—Kathryn Kessler
- 1/19—Keyara Rabuck
- 1/20—E. Louise Ward
- 1/22—Monica Weiss-Nolen
- 1/23—Rob Smith
- 1/23—Karl Von Lang
- 1/25—Danielle Howey
- 1/28—Alison Cressman



In Remembrance

Give thanks to the God of Heaven, for God's steadfast love endures forever. Psalm 136:26

Remembering those members who have passed . . .

- ◇ Muriel W. Hartline, 1/28/14—11/30/20
- ◇ Lee Wisner-Greger 3/4/31—11/28/20

Altar Flowers Dedications / Memorials

Jan. & Feb. dates.

Cost \$30.00

Please call the church office to sign-up.

Thanksgiving Meal Project—Thank You!!

On behalf of the 46 families who were helped this Thanksgiving Holiday, the Outreach Committee would like to thank everyone who donated either monetarily, or by donating Giant Gift Cards to make this event a success.

Since our traditional Thanksgiving Basket giveaway was not possible this year, we improvised, and each family received a \$25 Giant Gift Card to help with the purchase of their Thanksgiving Meals.

Thanks again, and we want to express our deepest appreciation for all who responded and helped with this great cause.

The Outreach Committee Members



Q: What is a COW's favorite Holiday?

Q: A: MOO Years Eve!



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330 FERRY STREET
EASTON PA 18042-4539
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(ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED)

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