

# The Eagle



November 2020

*New Series Volume MMXX No 11, 2020*

## ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH

*a reconciling in Christ congregation*

330 Ferry Street, Easton, PA 18042

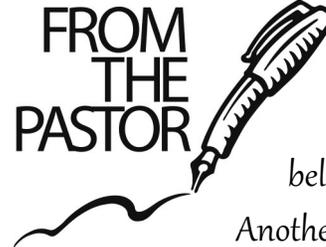
The Reverend Susan D. Ruggles, Pastor  
Jessica Madow, Director of Music

phone: 610-258-6119

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website: [stjohnseaston.org](http://stjohnseaston.org)

Newsletter Submissions to:  
[Newsletter@stjohnseaston.org](mailto:Newsletter@stjohnseaston.org)



The woman behind the counter asked me, "Are you a triple A member?" Sometimes belonging to something gives you discounts.

Another time someone asked me, "Do you have your bonus card?" meaning I shared information and became one of the thousands of people to receive special sales.

My granddaughter is part of a team who like to play soccer. It brings her joy and she learns skills. I thought over what associations, clubs, organizations and such that I belong or have belonged in the past. It is quite a few!

How about you? PTA, political party, service clubs, fraternity, organizations that focus on a hobby? There are groups you associate or associated with that brought you a sense of belonging. If you are reading this, you have some connection to Lutherans either by attending St. John's or by knowing someone at the church. Lutherans talk about church as a place where people gather for worship and engage one another. We worship, read scripture. We spend time in conversation and check in with each other about God and God in our life. Church is members who engage in community as believers in Jesus Christ.

Our community has been stretched to the limits because of many things. It is time to embrace it again! Let's claim our community of worship where we truly love God and one another.

Let's make November and December our best attendance months! If you can't come to worship in person yet, you can turn on the computer and make sure to view the service!

If computers frustrate you, call the church office, let's work it out together? Our community of faith cares for each and every one!

We finish the church year at the end of November and prepare for Advent. Our community is still thriving but our community is not the same without everyone's involvement. I am anxious to hear your ideas and your concerns as we move forward with the church year. We will celebrate All Saints Day like we usually do with remembering all those who have gone to their heavenly home. We will celebrate our good gifts by helping others at the bountiful time of Thanksgiving and we will give thanks for all of our blessings!

We gather as a community called St. John's. We gather as a community called St. John's as a part of the community of believers. You are that member or friend whose presence either in person or in spirit is the heart of St. John's! Worship, pray, read!

A bible verse from Romans 12:6-8

<sup>6</sup>We have different gifts, according to the grace given to each of us. If your gift is serving, then serve; if it is teaching, then teach; <sup>8</sup>if it is to encourage, then give encouragement; if it is giving, then give generously; if it is to lead, do it diligently; if it is to show mercy, do it cheerfully.



In HIS name,  
Pastor Sue

## Please Join Us!



Who: **YOU**

What: **Congregational Meeting**

Where: **Here at St. John's or via "Zoom"**  
(email the church for the "ZOOM" link.)

When: **December 6th after worship.**



**On October 31st, when you go to bed, please remember to set your clocks back 1 hour. You want to be on time for church on November 1st!!**

### Thanksgiving Basket Update:

Due to the Coronavirus, we will not be filling and giving out Thanksgiving Baskets this year.

In order to help families who are in need, within our congregation and community, to have a nice Thanksgiving meal the Outreach committee decided to give out \$25 gift cards from local grocery stores. These cards will help purchase some food items for their holiday dinner.

If you would like to support this project, you may do so with a monetary donation, which will be used to purchase gift cards.

We are limiting the amount of request we receive to 40 families.

We thank you for your support. **The Outreach Committee**





# November Celebrations

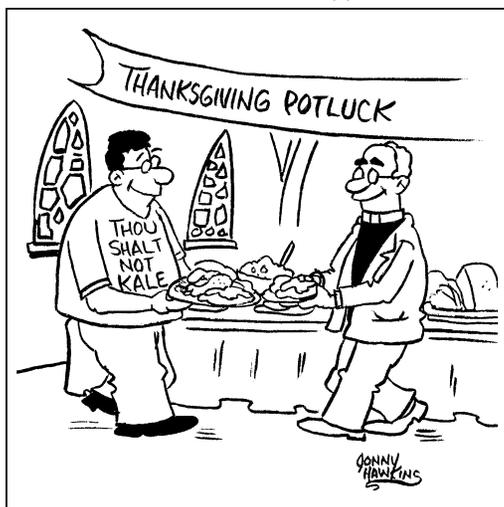
## Birthdays . . .

- 11/8— Linda Kalapay
- 11/10—Susan Campbell
- 11/11—Cheri Gilbert
- 11/11—June Smith
- 11/12—Sylvia Orem
- 11/13—Doug Powell
- 11/14—Jacob Ruggles
- 11/16—Nancy Dicker
- 11/16—Neal Gilbert
- 11/25—Charlene Fredericks
- 11/28—Pastor Sue Ruggles

## Anniversaries . . .

- 11/1—Anne & Edward Kovac

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



## **Thank you, God, For a Hundred Things**

Thank you, God, for a hundred things—

For the flower that blooms,  
for the bird that sings,  
For the sun that shines,  
And the rain that drops,  
For ice cream and candy and lollipops.

Thanks you God for the gift of time—

For the clocks that tick, and the bells that chime,  
For days gone by,  
And future cheers,  
For seasons, and moments, for hours and years.

Thanks for the people who give life pizzazz—

For those who play sports, those who act and play jazz,  
For friends and for families  
For those of all races,  
For hands that give help and for bright smiling faces.

Thanks for the planet you give as our home—

For the sky with its clouds, for the oceans' white foam,  
For the creatures and critters,  
The lakes, falls and fountains,  
For hills and for valleys, for canyons and mountains,

Thank you , God, for the gift of your Son—

For the love Jesus shared, for the battle Jesus won  
Over death, for the promise  
That Jesus would be near  
To lead and to guide and to hold us so dear.

Thank you, God, for a hundred things—

For autumn and pumpkins, for dragonfly wings,  
For Thanksgiving dinners, For seashores and shore,  
For a hundred things, and a thousand things more.

—Unknown

## November — 10:30 am

### November 1

### All Saints Day

Liturgical Color: Red  
Reading: Matthew 5:1-12  
Worship Assistant: Chris Orem  
Attendant / Ushers: Wayne Docker / Aaron Howey  
Reader: Wayne Docker

### November 8

### Twenty Third Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Green  
Reading: Matthew 25:1-13  
Worship Assistant: Roger Ruggles  
Attendant / Ushers: Bob Black / Michelle Fritzo  
Reader: Ian Heck

### November 15

### Twenty Fourth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Green  
Reading: Matthew 25:14-30  
Worship Assistant: Joyce Petty  
Attendant / Ushers: Jacob Ruggles / Jonas Orange  
Reader: Steve Moyer

### November 22

### Twenty Fifth Sunday after Pentecost

Liturgical Color: Green  
Reading: Matthew 25:31-46  
Worship Assistant: Jim Heck  
Attendant / Ushers: Roger Ruggles / Logan Weber  
Reader: Joyce Petty

### November 29

### First Sunday of Advent

Liturgical Color: Blue  
Reading: Mark 13:24-37  
Worship Assistant: Chris Orem  
Attendant / Ushers: Loretta Heck / Tara Fogel  
Reader: Nadine Anderson

# All Saints Day

celebrates the baptized people of God, living and dead, who are the body of Christ. As November heralds the dying of the landscape in many northern regions, the readings and liturgy call us to remember all who have died in Christ and whose baptism is complete. At the Lord's table we gather with the faithful of every time and place, trusting that the promises of God will be fulfilled and that all tears will be wiped away.



# November

**Dear Congregation,**



When I returned to St. John's last September it felt as if I'd never been gone. Many familiar faces and voices were all around me, the organ and piano felt like I was working with old friends, and the choir again sang whatever I put before them, giving their whole hearts and best voices. It was the wonderful St. John congregation that I remembered. Then in March our church life was pummeled by the pandemic, like everything else.

For the last three months our church doors have again been open, starting with a few parishioners and gaining more bit by bit. Some, like me, have not yet returned in person. In my case, it is because I have to be careful, having twice had pneumonia from a bit of a vulnerable lung situation. I miss you all and I miss the choir and I miss playing the music "live" for our services and having you all join in on the hymns and liturgical pieces. I so apologize for not being able to return yet. In the meantime I have been providing the music you've heard each week since Easter. I use my own instruments at home, including one called a keyboard arranger which creates most of the non-piano sounds. Then I use a software program on my computer to mix and balance the sounds together. I've never done this before, so it has been a terrific learning experience for me and I am deeply appreciative to St. John's for having allowed me the opportunity to learn these new skills.

I am greatly looking forward to when I am able to return in person. I hope you all remain safe and healthy!



Sincerely, Jessica Madow, Dir. of Music

Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed
1 All Saints Day Finance - Chapel 12:00 pm	2	3	4 Coun Rep Dr
8 Membership Chapel—12:00 pm Pastor's Entering the Waters Dialogue #2 Chapel—2:00 pm	9 Council Mtg. - Chapel 7:00 pm	10 Tuesday Bible Study - Old Test. Join us in the Chapel—11:00 am	11
15 Property - Office 12:00 pm Outreach—Chapel 12:00 pm	16 Sunday School / Youth Advent Workshop 5:00 pm - Fellowship Hall	17 Tuesday Bible Study - Old Test. Join us in the Chapel—11:00 am	18
22	23	24 Tuesday Bible Study - Old Test. Join us in the Chapel—11:00 am	25
29 First Sunday of Advent	30		

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## Altar Flowers Dedications / Memorials

November 15th, 22nd and 29th are available.

Cost \$30.00

Please call the church office to sign-up.

Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
	5 New Testament Bible Study Join us in the Chapel—5:30 pm	6	7
	12 Prayer Group Join us in the Chapel - 9:30 am  New Testament Bible Study Join us in the Chapel—5:30 pm	13  Newsletter Deadline	14
	19  New Testament Bible Study Join us in the Chapel—5:30 pm	20	21
	26  Thanksgiving Day  Office Closed	27  Office Closed	28

**YOUR GIVING  
MATTERS!**

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

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

Office Hours: 9:00 am—12:00 pm

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

\*Note - Alison Fink (Nursery) and Don Johnson (Driver) can be reached through the church office.

**Worship every Sunday in the Sanctuary @ 10:30 am  
with Holy Communion.**

*Wear your Mask.*

*Wash / Sanitize your hands...*

*We Practice Social Distancing!*

# Please join us: Fall Bible Study

- *Tuesday mornings @ 11:00 am ,*  
Old Testament

- *Thursday evenings @ 5:30 pm,*  
New Testament

*Both Bible Studies are available in person and via ZOOM,  
please contact the church office for details!*



## Worship Transportation

(Adults only at this time.)

\*Please call Don Johnson  
@ 610-360-5268

if you are in need of a ride.



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**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.**



*In the gallery...*  
The Gallery at St. John's remains temporarily closed.

## Outreach Committee *November* Benevolence



ProJeCt was founded in 1968 by a unique interfaith coalition of Protestant, Jewish, and Catholic community leaders who believed that our community could be better and that each of us has a responsibility for taking action.

Since 1968, ProJeCt has been an advocate for the at-risk population in the Lehigh Valley. It is a nonprofit organization with a mission of building a better community by helping people help themselves. Education is key to their mission and they offer a system of education support services to help clients break the cycle of poverty.

With support from the community, they are able to continue helping thousands of people and families through their food pantry, emergency assistance, youth development and educational programs.

Monetary donations can be sent to:

**ProJeCt of Easton, Inc.**  
320 Ferry St.  
Easton, PA 18042

St. John's is also the "Rice" church for ProJeCt . . . **We collect any and all types of Rice to donate to the ProJeCt food pantry.**

Please visit their website for other donation information.  
[www.projecteaston.org](http://www.projecteaston.org)

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**As Always, Outreach Thanks You !**



The Easton / Bethlehem Mission District has made the decision, (due to the Coronavirus), not to hold the Christmas

Ingathering in December this year. Instead, they will be holding a "Christmas in July 2021".

St. John's was asked to contribute 100 bottles of shampoo (including children's) for this event and will continue to collect them until dates and locations can be decided.

There is a box available in the Narthex for your donations.

The Outreach thank you for your continued support.



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/](http://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)**



### **Did You Know?**

You can find the most updated information about the church **Online?**

Have you watched any of our "Online Worship Services"?

Please check out our website!  
[WWW.STJOHNSEASTON.ORG](http://WWW.STJOHNSEASTON.ORG)

Do you use "**Social Media**"?

What "**Platforms**" do you use?

Do you get your information from FACEBOOK, Instagram, Twitter?

Would it be helpful for the church to use those too?

**Let us know!** - Admin@stjohnseaston.org

## **Entering the Waters Dialogue #2 "Civic Engagement"**

*(Some points taken from Living Lutheran 10/2020 issue.)*

Please Join us November 8th, 2020  
@ 2:00 pm in the Chapel.



<sup>28</sup>There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female, for you are all one in Jesus Christ.

- Galatians 3:28

Please Join Us . . .  
**Sunday School  
Advent Workshop**

November 16th, 2020  
@ 5:00 pm  
(in the fellowship hall)



## Pizza, Crafts, Fun!

(Social Distancing and Masks required)

**RSVP: to the Church by 11/13/20**



*Advent is the first season in the church year, comprising the four weeks before Christmas. The word "Advent" comes from the Latin, "to come," and the church has observed Advent as weeks of preparation since the fifth century*

*with themes of watchfulness, preparation, and hope infusing this season. We anticipate the celebration of God's coming in the form of the Christ child and the final coming of Christ in the time to come.*

*Hope, Peace Joy, Love*



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

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**NOVEMBER**