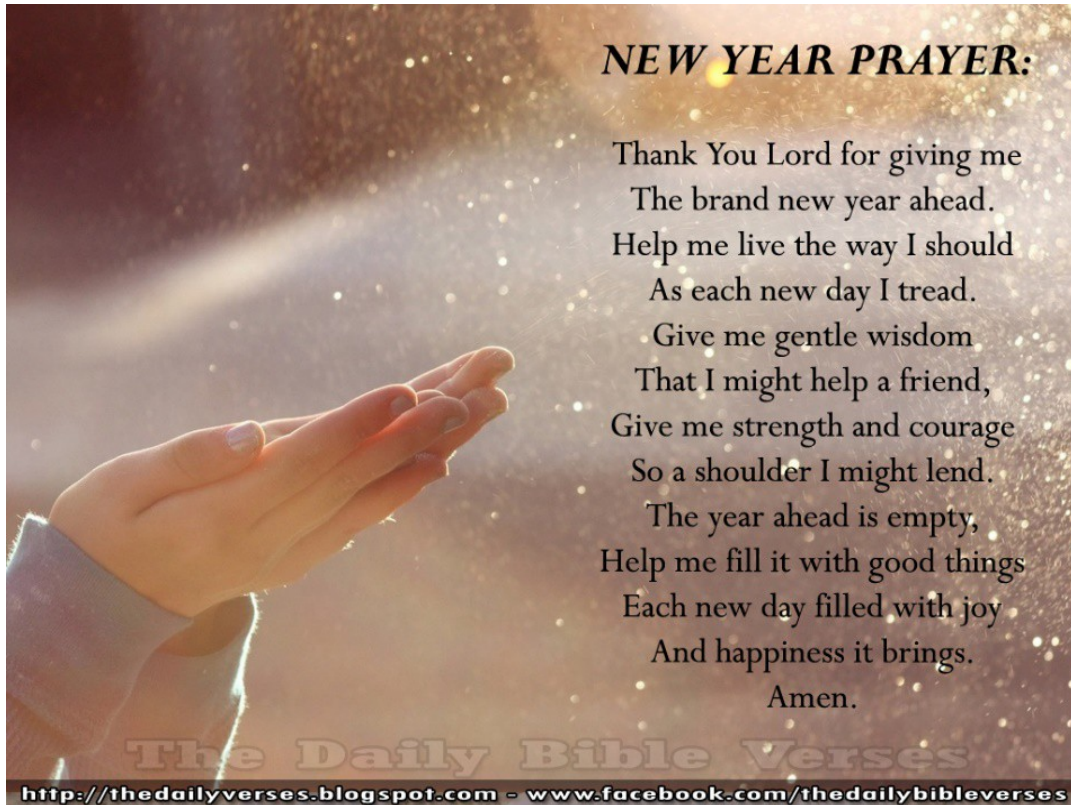


ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH
RIDGE VALLEY
EVANGELIST NEWSLETTER
JANUARY 2021



*St John's is a strong community.
We will weather this together.
Don't give up hope and keep the faith!*

A MESSAGE FROM OUR CHURCH COUNCIL PRESIDENT:

Happy New Year Everyone! I for one am glad to put 2020 behind me and let's hope and pray 2021 is better. With that thought in mind let's see where your mindset is for the new year.

You are holding a cup of coffee when someone comes along and bumps into you or shakes your arm, making you spill your coffee everywhere.

Why did you spill your coffee?

"Because someone bumped into me!"

Wrong answer.

You spilled the coffee because there was coffee in your cup.

Had there been tea in the cup, you would have spilled tea.

Whatever is inside the cup is what will spill out.

Therefore, when life comes along and shakes you (which will happen), whatever is inside your cup will come out. It's easy to fake it until you get rattled.

So, we have to ask ourselves...."what's in my cup?"

When life gets tough, what spills over?

Joy, gratefulness, peace, and humility?

Anger, bitterness, harsh words, and reactions?

Life provides the cup; YOU choose how to fill it.

Today let's work towards filling our cups with gratitude, forgiveness, joy, words of encouragement and kindness, gentleness, and love for others. Wouldn't God be smiling if we tried a few of those...

Be a light in someone's day

Vicki Dixon

St. John's Church Council President

Worship and Music Committee
2020

The purpose of the Worship and Music Committee is to plan and coordinate vibrant worship of God in our Lutheran theological tradition. The Committee assists, supports, and encourages the Pastor and Choir Director/Organist in the ministry of God's church. We especially help them select appropriate formats for a variety of worship services throughout the year. This year the pandemic dictated changes in worship. We strive to remain current with Synod and governmental recommendations for in-person worship. Our goal is to keep congregational members safe!

The Worship and Music Committee reviews responses to recent worship services and seasons. We make suggestions and recommendations for future services and worship practices. The Committee is concerned about attendance, timeframes, worship assistants, and music selection. We strive to provide a meaningful worship service while meeting the needs of our diverse congregation. The Committee plans special services, schedules one service Sundays, and keeps the website and other communications up to date.

To provide effective dispersion of His word here on earth and meet the expectations of Council, the Worship and Music Committee has adopted long-range goals. These goals include:

- ***Design worship for the entire community***
- ***Maintain the stability of the present congregation***
- ***Remain current with Synod recommendations***
- ***Evaluate appropriate use of media for various services***

Our endeavors in preparation for future generations also involve activities related to these goals. Some of these activities include:

- ***Continuation of recruitment and training worship assistants***
- ***Using appropriate technology to disseminate worship services through various media***
- ***Participate in SEPA Synod Communications Committee meetings***
- ***Schedule and recommend dates for one service Sundays***
- ***Continuation of the Service of Healing***
- ***Continue the Easter Vigil service***
- ***Brainstorm and re-evaluate ideas for future worship at St. John's***

We, at St. John's, continue to demonstrate our devotion to worship and glorifying our Lord. The Worship and Music Committee works hard to meet the needs of everyone. We heartily thank willing volunteers for Altar Guild and bread making. Members of St. John's are invited to join the Altar Guild and/or share ideas with the Worship and Music Committee.

Committee members as of December 2020:

Marge Fitzgerald
Mark Gottesfeld
Donald Graham
Pia Graham

Lynne Kelly, Chair
Phyllis Kogel
Anthony Martella
John Mood

Pastor Paul Townsend
Brenda Wall

Respectfully submitted, Lynne Kelly, Chair

transitions team updates

The Five Focus Points of Transition time.

They are:

- 1) Heritage: *reviewing how the congregation has been shaped and formed.*
- 2) Leadership: *reviewing the membership needs and its ways of organizing and developing new and effective leadership.*
- 3) Mission: *defining and redefining sense of purpose and direction.*
- 4) Connections: *discovering all the relationships a faith community builds outside of itself.*
- 5) Future: *developing congregational and pastoral profiles*

Call Committee Update

Call Committee members are:

Denise Rogers, Don Graham, Elsie Bartram, Sue Crouthamel, Kayla Ackerman, and Zack McLane.



Outdoor Property - VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

Chris Wall officially announced his resignation from outdoor property at the end of 2020. We are looking for someone to spearhead the Outdoor Property committee and find volunteers to complete the many tasks that Chris performed over the years. Again, a HUGE THANK YOU to Chris for all he has done over the years to keep our church beautiful outside.



For those who have Thrivent cards and have not used them this year; Chris Wall will be attempting to make soup again and needs some financial help to get them started. We are also discussing having another hoagie fundraiser and the Thrivent cards can be used for that as well. Thank you. Denise Rogers [215-257-9635](tel:215-257-9635) is our liaison for Thrivent.

HELP US GROW THROUGH eGIVING



We appreciate your giving. As we alter the way we operate, please consider making a gift via eGiving. Our eGiving service, Vanco, provides tools to make giving simple even when you're unable to attend church. Their eGiving is safe and secure, and it allows you to designate your contribution to the church funds you're most passionate about. Giving online is fast, easy and secure. You can even set up recurring payments, so your donations continue even when you forget.

Visit our church website and locate the GivePlus online button and donate! You also have the option of donating using your smartphone with the GivePlus app or directly from our church Facebook page. To learn more about giving online, contact Barb Berberich at 215-258-0282.

"Help the life of one person and you can help the community."

Food Drive Benefitting Pennridge FISH

Drop off your donations at St John's on Sunday mornings before or after the service. For a list of current needs visit www.pennridgefish.org

FISH giving:

2020: 295 pounds (as of 11/23/2020)

Quakertown Food Pantry maintains an Amazon wish list with its most needed items. Simply purchase the items and they'll be automatically shipped to their designated address. Visit www.quakertownfoodpantry.org for more information

Penridge Community Recovery Fund Launches to Help Area Battle Covid-19

The Penridge Community Recovery Fund, a new nonprofit based in Upper Bucks County, is now accepting contributions to support local relief and recovery efforts related to the COVID-19 crisis. The fund will focus exclusively on the Penridge area. It seeks to aide nonprofits and charitable organizations that are providing much needed food, shelter, emergency services, counseling and social services to the community. For more information and to donate visit their website at www.pennridgefund.org.

Do You Shop on Amazon.com?



If so, please choose St. John's Lutheran Evangelical Church in Sellersville, PA through your AmazonSmile account. There is no cost to you and the AmazonSmile Foundation will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from your eligible AmazonSmile purchases to St. John's. Just go to smileamazon.com, search for **St. Johns Evangelical Lutheran Church (in Sellersville, PA)** and then click on "select". If you have questions, please contact the church office. This is a great way to support our ministry with no extra cost to you. Thank you for your support! Visit www.smile.amazon.com to register your

account.

NewsLetter
DEADLINE

Please note that the deadline for Submissions for St. John's **February 2021 Newsletter** must be submitted by **NO LATER than 12 noon Friday, January 22, 2021**. Submissions can be dropped off at the church office

or emailed to: stjohnsridgevalley910@gmail.com. Thank you!



A Loving Memorial was received in Loving Memory of
Elmer & Ellen Huber from: *Harvey Huber.*



When we pray together, we storm the gates of heaven. Please pray with one another for healing and the well-being of:

Please pray for a speedy recovery for the following people:

Lucille Caruso (Hospice @ home), Susie Diehl, Vicki Dixon, Ed Galgon (Lynn & Sue Crouthamel's son-in-law), Walt Kolb, Bob Kulp, Denise Rogers, Fred Schirk, and Linda Trauger (pneumonia & COVID-19).

Please pray for the family of *Charlie Guenst.*

Please pray for the family of *Richard Baxter.*

Please keep our homebound members in your prayers - Francis Allem, Edna Barndt, Pauline Brensinger, Lucille Caruso, William Clayton, Stella Crouthamel, Nancy Esposito, Carolyn Hafler, Ralph Heffendrager, Bob Kulp, Margie Kulp, Blanche Matczak, Naomi Nase, Shirley Nase, Myrna Reppert, Fred Schirk, Mark Trauger, Elaine Turner, and Harriet Woehr.

Prayers for our Military – Jacob Baxter, Luke Dixon, Bryanne Kelly, and Steven Walter.

If you know of someone that needs to be added to the prayer list please call the church office 215.257.9643 or email the office stjohnsridgevalley910@gmail.com .



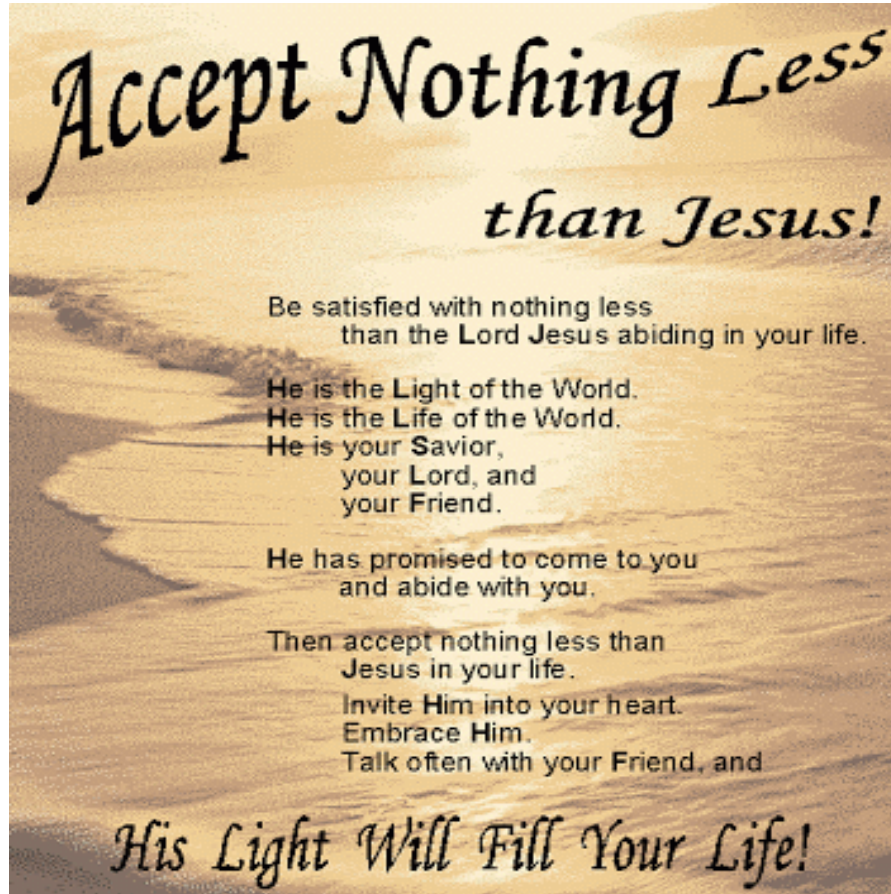
JANUARY BIRTHDAY LIST

- 1 Nathan Yoder
- 2 Paul Grater
- 6 Richard Snyder
- 12 Brandy Spangenberg
- 20 Sandra Rosenberger
- 21 John Woehr V
- 22 Adea Good
- 27 Anthony Martella
- 30 Lori Barndt

Did we miss anyone else? Please let the church office know if we missed someone's birthday.

The new sign-up calendars for Flowers, Bulletins and Candles for 2021 are available in the Fellowship Coffee Area once the church is allowed to open its doors again.

We are out of keys for the church and we really don't want to create more. If you are not using your keys, please return them to the church or Vicki Dixon. Thank you.



thank you!

With Sincere Gratitude ~

Thank you from the Family of Charlie Guent

There are not enough words to fully express our heartfelt 'Thanks' for the outpouring of prayers, thoughts and support you have extended to the Guent family during this time of loss. God Bless You!

Scripture Readings for January 2021

January 6th – Epiphany of our Lord

First Reading: Isaiah 60: 1-6

Psalm: Psalm 72: 1-7, 10-14

Second Reading: Ephesian 3: 1-12

Gospel: Matthew 2: 1-12

January 10th – Baptism of Our Lord

First Reading: Genesis 1: 1-5

Psalm: Psalm 29

Second Reading: Acts 19: 1-7

Gospel: Mark 1: 4-11

January 17th – Second Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: 1 Samuel 3: 1-10

Psalm: Psalm 139: 1-6, 13-18

Second Reading: I Corinthians 6: 12-20

Gospel: John 1: 43-51

January 24th – Third Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Jonah 3: 1-5, 10

Psalm: Psalm 62: 5-12

Second Reading: I Corinthians 7: 29-31

Gospel: Mark 1: 14-20

January 31st – Fourth Sunday after Epiphany

First Reading: Deuteronomy 18: 15-20

Psalm: 111

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 8: 1-13

Gospel: Mark 1: 21-28

Join the Card Shower

Simply pick up a "get well" or "encouragement" card or write a note, and send it to any or all of the folks listed below. They would love to receive your thoughts and prayers, and we know it would help to brighten up their day. Thank you for your time and care!

Frances Allem
2030 Old Bethlehem Pike
Sellersville, PA 18960

Edna Barndt
Parker at Stonegate
443 River Road, Apt. 313
Highland Park, NJ 08904

Elaine Turner
P.O. Box 254
Tylersport, PA 18971

Pauline Brensinger
12 Lutheran Home Drive
Room 402 – Healthcare Pavilion
Telford, PA 18969

Carolyn Hafler
12 Lutheran Home Drive
Personal Care Room 101
Telford, PA 18969

Marguerite (Peggy) Rohl
3250 State Rd.
RL# 391, Apt 4
Sellersville, PA 18960

Margie Kulp
Peter Becker Community
800 Maple Avenue
Harleysville, PA 19438

William Clayton
#133 Sacred Heart Senior Living
4851 Saucon Creek Rd
Center Valley, PA 18034

Myrna Reppert
1621 South Shore Rd.
Lot# 83
Ocean View, NJ 08230

Blanche Matczak
205 Cleveland St
Mullins, SC 29574

Naomi Nase
2077 Hendricks Station Rd
Harleysville, PA 19438

Ralph Heffendrager
Independence Court, #136
1660 Park Avenue
Quakertown, PA 18951

Lucille Caruso
825 Allentown Road
Sellersville, PA 18960

Ruth Marx
56 South 14th Street
Quakertown, PA 18951

Shirley Nase
235 N. Washington St.
Apt LV149
Telford, PA 18964

Stella Crouthamel
2849 Big Road APT 3113
Zieglerville, PA 19492

Linda Trauger
Mark Trauger
242 Telford Pike
Telford, PA 18969

Harriet Woehr
1504 Ridge Rd
Sellersville PA 18960

**JANUARY 2021 WORSHIP ASSISTANT LIST
10:15 AM VIRTUAL WORSHIP SERVICE**

	January 3	January 10	January 17	January 24	January 31
ACOLYTE	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
ALTAR GUILD	Marge Fitzgerald Barb Berberich Kathy Weirback	Marge Fitzgerald Barb Berberich Kathy Weirback	Marge Fitzgerald Barb Berberich Kathy Weirback	Marge Fitzgerald Barb Berberich Kathy Weirback	Marge Fitzgerald Barb Berberich Kathy Weirback
BELL RINGER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER	VOLUNTEER
**LECTOR/ WORSHIP ASSISTANT	Penny Markley	Cornell Hopkins	Brenda Wall	Lynne Kelly	Doug Kemp
TELLERS (*Council Member)	Phyllis Kogel* Denise Rogers Greg Gilton	Vicki Dixon* Rick Croisette Davis Schirk	Penny Markley Don Graham Cheryl Fuhrman	Chris Wall* Brenda Wall Sue Crouthamel	Phyllis Kogel* Denise Rogers Greg Gilton

****The assigned Lector will also act as Worship Assistant and read the prayers. If you prefer, you may request the Pastor to do the prayers.**

If you are unable to serve on the day you are scheduled, please arrange to switch with another person on the schedule, then contact the Church Office or Brenda Wall or Sue Crouthamel by the Wednesday of the week you had been scheduled. Thank you. Anyone wishing to volunteer for Worship Assistants for either service, please contact Brenda Wall or Sue Crouthamel. Thank You!

*Tellers – please use the Sunday School room across the hall from the Pastor’s office to count the offerings. Thank you!

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
910 Allentown Road
Sellersville, PA 18960



St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church - Ridge Valley
910 Allentown Road, Sellersville PA 18960

Office Hours: Monday through Friday 9 a.m. to 2 p.m.

Office Phone: 215-257-9643 Email: stjohnsridgevalley910@gmail.com

Web: www.stjohnsridgevalley.com



Find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/stjohnsridgevalley

St. John's Council Members

Vicki Dixon – Council President

Chris Wall – Council Vice President

Emily Dixon – Council Secretary

Kathy Weirback – Treasurer

Barbara Berberich – Financial Secretary

Phyllis Kogel

Lynn Crouthamel

Anthony Martella

Zack McLane



Ministers: The People of St. John's

Bridge Pastor: Pastor Paul Townsend

Bridge Secretary: Kim O'Riordan

Organist & Music Director: Mark Gottesfeld

Sexton – Christine Nyce

