

AUGUST 30



ST JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH

Amy Lytle, Synod Authorized Minister

THE WEEKLY UPDATE

2026

Welcome to St. John Lutheran Church! **Today is the 14th Sunday after Pentecost.** We are delighted to have you worship with us. All who have come to worship are heartily welcomed. Let us joyfully open our hearts to God and one another. If you'd like to connect with us, share a prayer request, or learn more about St. John, please complete a yellow communication card located on the back of the pews and place it in the offering plate.

PRAYER REQUESTS

When we pray for each other, we demonstrate Christ's love for each of us

For **Tim & Tiffany Moore** and family, as they mourn the loss of Tim's mother **Barbara Moore**

For **John Rogers**, son-in-law of Ruth Bigler, as he was just diagnosed with a bladder tumor

For **Phyllis Craiglow**, daughter-in-law of Leola, as Parkinson's disease progresses, in hospice care

For **Jim Fogle**, as he prepares for surgery on September 1 to repair his hip

For **Kaitlyn**, 19-year-old granddaughter of retired teacher Gail Murray, friend of Peggy, severe health issues

For **Jonathan Ripley**, 26-year-old grandson of Roger & Jerrie, starting a new trial and may not need radiation

For **Diane Farley Holbrook**, cousin of Sally Acton, pancreatic cancer treatments ongoing, surgery soon

For **Kyle Jackson**, nephew of Deb Canini, 2 nodules found on his parathyroid gland, new ultrasound upcoming

For **Sandy Mohler**, neighbor of Don & Neva, started monthly chemo treatment

For **Jenna McGuire**, grandniece of Don & Neva Hornbeck, started breast cancer treatment

For **Scott Arnett**, son-in-law of Jonette Christy, his cancer treatments completed, on chemo pills

For **Karma Wisecarver**, daughter of Lee & Peggy Smith, ongoing cancer treatment

Continued prayers for **Jon Leist, Donna Canini, Charlotte Meyer, and Linda Miller**

WE ARE HERE FOR YOU! We all face challenges from time to time...whether it be a health issue, loss of a loved one, family difficulties, financial hardship, anxiety, or fears. Please don't hesitate to reach out and ask for prayers or for support. We're all here to help in any way, or just to simply listen. Please feel free to reach out to Amy to let her know how she can help (614-208-3719 amyblytle@gmail.com). If you have a prayer request, Sue Mason can send an email to all members (614-260-1107 susiemase3@hotmail.com).

UPCOMING

BIRTHDAYS

Charlotte Meyer	Sept 1
Elliot Dillon	Sept 6
Danielle Bartos	Sept 6



The altar flowers are given by Michele (Mike) and William (Willy) Moore to the glory of God and in celebration of Tim & Tiffany Moore's 30th wedding anniversary.



Scripture for today August 30, 2026

Jeremiah 15: 15-21, Psalm 26: 1-8, Romans 12: 9-21, Matthew 16: 21-28

When Peter doesn't grasp Jesus' words about suffering, Jesus tells the disciples they will find their lives in losing them. Such sacrificial love is described by Paul when he urges us to associate with the lowly and not repay evil with evil. In worship we gather as a community that we might offer ourselves for the sake of our suffering world. Today we reflect on the cost of the cross.

The Inside Story, by Sally Acton. Today's Opening Hymn, "**For the Beauty of the Earth**", was written by Folliott Sandford Pierpoint in 1864 at the age of 29. This was inspired by the scenic view overlooking his native city Bath, England. It was originally written for the communion services but became a famous hymn.

Thank You Jon Leist and his family would like to sincerely thank everyone who attended Linda's Celebration of Life and for all the love, prayers, and support shown to our family during this difficult time. Linda was deeply loved and cherished, and after 60 years of marriage, she and Jon shared a lifetime of wonderful memories together. Linda loved her church, enjoyed creating beautiful flower arrangements, and, most of all, loved living life to the fullest. We will never forget the kindness and support you have given our family. Linda meant so much to so many, and we will miss her more than words can say. We love her so much and will carry her memory in our hearts forever. *Jon*

5th SUNDAY POTLUCK – We're excited for our 5th Sunday Potluck, immediately following today's church service! Council has decided to hold the potluck **inside the church**, rather than outside as previously communicated. You never know what the weather may bring, and keeping it inside will make things much easier by eliminating the need to move tables and chairs in and out. Just a reminder to please bring a **side dish to share**. We already have several delicious desserts lined up! Lemonade and bottled water will be provided. Come join us for good food, good fellowship, and a fun afternoon together!



The **Altar Flower** chart is in the Narthex where you may sign up to place flowers on the altar. Flowers are \$35. You may leave the money in the envelope under the chart for Jon Leist. Please be sure to indicate if the flowers are for a special occasion, and let Don Hornbeck know if you would like it posted in the Bulletin.

OFFICE HOURS Amy will be in the church office on Wednesday, September 9th and the 30th, from 10 am - 2 pm. Feel free to stop by to chat - appointment not needed.



Please place your food donation for the **Food Pantry** in the shopping cart. The Food Pantry is in need of canned meats. Thank you, everything is appreciated. **NOTE:** items in our grocery cart that members donate are given to Lutheran Social Services in Lancaster. This is different from the quarterly donation from our MEF that is given to the Bloom-Carroll Pantry Mission.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED! On Saturday, September 12th, during the local **Honeyfest**, we will have an outreach booth stationed at our church (corner of South St and Delaware St). This is a great way to connect with the community and inform them about St. John. Volunteers are needed for 2-hour shifts to pass out bottled water and pens and to answer any questions. Two canopies will be set up for your comfort; chairs from the basement can be used, but you are welcome to bring your own lawn chair. A sign-up sheet is located in the narthex. Your participation will be greatly appreciated.



A SUMMARY OF COUNCIL MEETING MINUTES AUGUST 23, 2026

ATTENDEES: Sally Acton, Deb Canini, Mike Drodofsky, Alan Fisher, Neil Jarvis, Diana Johnson, Jon Leist, Amy Lytle, Sue Mason, Charlotte Meyer ABSENT: Jerry Canini, Jonette Christy, and Briana Hart

Amy opened the meeting with a prayer; meeting chaired by Alan. MINUTES of previous meeting were approved as presented. Alan reviewed current FINANCIALS which were in good standing.

OLD BUSINESS:

- * Lithopolis Honeyfest – our outreach booth will be located at our church (corner of South & Delaware Streets); Alan will order pens with St. John info and Jon will purchase bottled water; volunteers will be needed to pass out these items to those passing by; Sue will compile a volunteer sign-up sheet
- * SAM Classes – Amy is waiting for results of her SAM classes; she will continue to follow up
- * Project “To-Do” List – Jon will compile a “to-do” list for members to help with projects around the church
- * 1st Communion Classes – Amy reported that these will tentatively start in October; council agreed to purchase class materials at a cost of \$150
- * Parking Lot Repairs – Jerry will provide an update at our next meeting
- * Roof Repairs – Jon reported that Durable Slate will be here very soon to repair the shingles; we are on their schedule
- * Kitchen Improvements – Deb reported that the cupboards are actually in pretty good shape; Jerry is experimenting with possibly painting them instead of having to install new ones; he is also researching countertop options
- * Zoom Events – Amy reported that instructions to church members for using Zoom will be distributed (tentatively in November); Zoom will be used for council meetings and in the event that church services are canceled due to inclement weather



- * Online Weekly Sermon Summaries – Amy is compiling a summary of her weekly sermons, Briana is posting them on our Facebook page and Don is posting them to the website
- * Bibles for Sunday School – they have been purchased and are now available for use
- * Additional Administrators for Church Accounts – Sue reported that she, Amy, and Don Hornbeck now have access to the: 1) church email account, 2) online church directory, 3) church voice mail – this ensures that more than just one person will always have access to these accounts
- * Council will continue to monitor suggestions made at the May 31st Brainstorming Session for possible action

NEW BUSINESS

- * Memorial Garden – Jon reported that there will be a memorial garden located between our two church buildings; sod will be replaced with pea gravel in that area; this memorial garden is open to all members of our church as a place of remembrance and reflection; Jon will oversee this project with help from various members
- * Railing Replacement – the black hand railings at the basement entrance and walkway will be replaced with a wooden railing to match the one at the back choir entrance
- * Blessing of the Animals – Amy reported that a member suggested a “Blessing of the Animals”; after discussion, Council agreed to hold this event on Saturday, October 3rd at 10:00am in the parking lot of our church; all pets and trained animals are welcome to receive this special blessing

PENDING

- * Vanguard is requesting that we update our administrative documents; Neva Hornbeck has agreed to be added to the MEF account (ALAN & MIKE)
- * Lutheran Social Services – grocery cart – designate 2 items monthly for members’ contribution (COUNCIL)
- * Narthex Carpet Replacement (JON researching options)
- * Church Signage into Lithopolis (ALAN has left message with the village; he will continue to follow up)
- * Church Mission Statement (COUNCIL will compile, then members to vote w/approval)
- * 175th Anniversary / 2030 – “goal tree” (COUNCIL)

WISH LIST

- * Light up cross on top of church

With no further business, the meeting was closed with council members reciting the Lord’s Prayer.

RESPECTFULLY SUBMITTED BY SUE MASON, COUNCIL SECRETARY