
St. John's Way, Truth and Life

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June 2023



"If in doubt, go!"

—the motto of the Huntington Beach Life Guards.

As Christians we have the Great Commission which calls us to:

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."

Confirmation is a bittersweet moment for me because I always worry that I haven't done enough to prepare them. Our Confirmands live in a world far more dangerous than the one I grew up in. We live in the midst of a people that calls good evil and evil good.

Because of that, our mission is to be different. We follow a God who brings light to darkness, love to hate and life to death. YOU are God's gift to the world. God made you for this very moment in history. How you live matters. When we live Christ, we live a "Still more excellent way."

People watch. They want to see if you actually put your life where your mouth is (does our life witness for or against Jesus?). When in doubt, go.

Go spread the love of Christ.

Go spread the light of Christ.

Go spread the peace of Christ.

May those around you see Christ in you.

See you in Worship,

Pastor Johnson



Sunday, June 4, 2023 is the date St. John's will recognize their 2023 graduates. Graduates will be recognized on Sunday with a Fellowship hour in the social hall following the 11:00 a.m. worship and will also participate in the 11:00 a.m. service. **If you are a high school, college or tech school graduate or know of someone who is, please contact the church office at (724) 548-2051 if you need a form emailed. You may email forms and pictures to stjohnskittanning@gmail.com. Pictures are also needed to complete our graduate brochure.** Thank you!

*St. John's Congregation is honoring their
over 80 members!*

*You are invited to enjoy a luncheon
after 11:00 a.m. worship
Sunday, June 11, 2023
in the Social Hall*

*Please respond to the church office
by June 2, 2023.
724-548-2051*

Table of Contents

Page 2	Council Highlights, Electronic Giving
Page 3	Children and Youth Opportunities
Page 4	Birthdays, Attendance, Finance
Page 5	Thank You's, Music Notes
Page 6	Katie's Cupboard, Youth Sunday, Property Workday, Music Notes
Page 7	Worship Leaders & Comic
Page 8	Calendar



Electronic Giving is Good for You and the Church

You can now make a contribution to our church through a mobile app!

To get started, download GivePlus Church for free from the App Store or Google Play. Simply search for "GivePlus Church" to quickly find and download the app today. Then, you can easily make donations directly from your smartphone using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.

You can also choose to donate as a guest or set up an account that allows you to securely and conveniently schedule recurring donations and manage and review your giving history.

We hope you enjoy this new way to contribute to our ministry, and thank you for your support.

1. Download the free app on your Apple or Android phone.
2. Make one-time or recurring donations using your debit/credit card or checking/savings account.
3. Log in or donate as a guest.
4. Securely and conveniently manage donations using Touch ID/Fingerprint, PIN or password.

To give through the app, search your phone's app store for "GivePlus Mobile" or contact the church office.

**"Give according to your income,
lest God make your income
according to your giving."**

Mark Your Calendars

June 3	Spring Outside Clean-up day
June 4	Graduate Sunday
June 11	Over 80 Luncheon
June 12-15	Vacation Bible School
June 26-30	Solid Rock Day Camp
July 10-14	NALC Camp Gr 7-12
July 17-19	NALC Elementary Camp Gr 4-6
August 9-11	NALC Convention in Oklahoma
September 10	Rally Day
October 29	Reformation Sunday
December 3	Christmas Concert



- Heard that St. John's Bible Bowl Team won first place!
- Approved the Zak and Jamie Myers family for membership.
- Approved Colvin Jackson Adkins, Kendall Claude Bailey, Brody Allan Hodak, Noelle Sarina Smoyer, Stella Elizabeth Venesky for confirmation pending the completion of their catechetical work.
- Elected Tammy Fleeger and Julie Smith as our delegates to the NALC National Convocation August 9-11 in Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.
- Heard that we received thank yous from Lutheran Military Veterans and Families Ministries, Water Missions, Lutheran Bible Translators (for the Ethiopian Seminary), Kittanning Library, and North American Lutheran Seminary for donations.

A complete copy of the approved minutes from each month is posted on bulletin boards in the Narthex and Education Building.

Your Church Council members are always available for your questions and concerns:

Connie Choncek	724-664-1955
Dean Crooks	724-664-2015
Tammy Fleeger	724-297-5889
Wendy Hodak	724-664-4345
Gene Hughes	724-543-3011
Kyle Kirkpatrick	724-954-7366
John Swanson	724-525-1381
Brett Taylor	724-525-0850
Richard Thorell	724-349-5287
Kraig Walker	724-664-3085
Karen Waugaman	724-543-9043

All God's children

On the basis of the eternal will of God, we have to think of *every human being*, even the oddest, most villainous or miserable, as one to whom Jesus Christ is Brother and God is Father; and we have to deal with him on this assumption. If the other person knows that already, then we have to strengthen him in the knowledge. If he does not know it yet or no longer knows it, our business is to transmit this knowledge to him.

On the basis of the knowledge of the humanity of God, no other attitude to any kind of fellow man is possible. It is identical with the practical acknowledgment of his human rights and his human dignity. To deny it to him would be for us to renounce having Jesus Christ as Brother and God as Father.

—Karl Barth, *The Humanity of God*

Children & Youth

Youth Group Blast Water Games, Pizza, Fun!
June 4th 6:30-8pm



HUZZAH! You are invited to our Keepers of the Kingdom VBS! Excitement and Adventure Await, as you charge into medieval times. You'll learn how to be a part of God's Kingdom and discover the Armor of God! We'll discover God's truth, in a world abounding with magnificent dragons, brave knights, and epic battles!

Kids Toddler -5th Grade!
June 12th -15th 9am-Noon
Snack and Lunch included!

Here is the link for Registration:
www.tinyurl.com/stjohnskittanningvbs2023

We will need decorators, volunteers, station leaders, helpers and more. Please see Julie if you'd like to help. Clearances required

SOLID ROCK Day Camp

Join us for a week of Fun, Games, Crafts, Bible-Centered Lessons, Nature Discovery, a special field trip and More! Led by a great Group of students from the Carolina's Mission District

Who's invited: All Kids entering 1st - 5th grade

When: June 26-June 30

Time: M-F 9am-3pm

Lunch: FREE lunch included for all kids

Cost: Actual rate is \$80 per camper, however, St. John's Kittanning & Resurrection Lutheran Cooperative Ministry is underwriting some of the cost per camper.

Your Rate: Non-Member \$80

Member of NALC Congregations: \$25

Sibling discount of \$15/ registration

Registration is Limited to 25 students

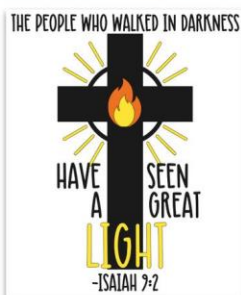
Registration Link:

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSfCeS1uhFJGV7F_bMIbn2suZKRSLN_xVYkWNTqw4KHu-i5cGAA/viewform

Registration Link will also be on our Faith Kidz fb Page

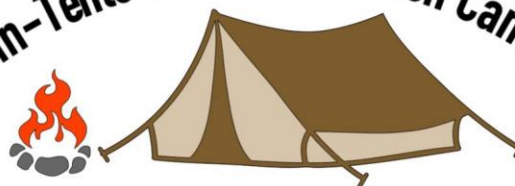
(*see Julie smith if you need added to fb page*)

If you have ANY questions/concerns, please call Julie Smith at St. John's at 724-548-2051



We are excited to welcome author, poet and speaker Tanner Olson!

In-Tents Lutheran Church Camp



Youth Camp:
July 10 - 14, 2023

Cost: \$25 for members, \$190 for Non-Members

Grades 7 - 12

<https://tinyurl.com/InTentsYouthCamp>

Elementary Camp:
July 17 - 19, 2023

Cost: \$25 / members, \$110 / Non-Mem

Grades 4 - 6

<https://tinyurl.com/InTentsElementaryCamp>





- 1 Pat Bowser, Bill McMaster, Jr.,
Elizabeth Dixon
- 2 Naomi Smith, Michael Ulisky,
Isaiah Zacherl
- 3 Kristie Cooper, Emily Peck

Ghering,

- Keith Livengood, Leota Minnich, Savannah Purvis
- 4 Betsy Schall, Andrew Bowser
- 6 Martin Erdley
- 7 Ryker John
- 8 Christopher Moorhead
- 9 Betsy Furlong, Frances Kirby, Jordain Bowser,
Tyler Bowser
- 12 Tonya Zimmerman Kilgore, Ryan Shafer
- 13 Michael Livingston
- 14 Karen Waugaman, Kathy Peck, Jarrod Olinger,
Olivia Erdley, Hilma Wingard
- 15 Robert Bleakney, Mike Crissman
- 16 Jessica Smith, Camryn Bowser
- 17 Eric Starr
- 21 Karen Ansell, Jackson Lager
- 24 Pat Bush-Burkett, Michael McDermott, Chase Ansell,
Tyler Choncek, Jacob Rupp
- 25 Jessica Held, Lance Whiteman
- 26 William Olinger, Angelo Law
- 27 Richard Round, Evan Cravener
- 28 Cheryl Gariglio, Liam Alese
- 29 Jerry Houser, Derek Kirby, Jr.
- 30 Emil Debnar, Toni Smail, Jason Slee



Our April Church Offerings

Offerings	Apr Receipts	Apr Budget	Year To-Date	Budget To-Date
Current				
Operating	34,770	26,207	91,250	104,828
Benevolence	2,102	3,333	7,415	13,333
Capital				
Campaign	2,566	1,937	8,784	7,748

Current Account	Income	Expenses	Gain/ -Loss
Current Month	34,770	23,833	10,936
Year to Date	91,250	106,906	-15,656

Empower the Mission and Ministry of St. John's!

Let's be faithful in our Pentecost generosity.
This year presents a very great challenge for each and every one of us! Please give prayerful consideration to increasing your giving to St. John's that we might continue the year in plenty, rather than in want. Thank you for your continued support!

ATTENDANCE

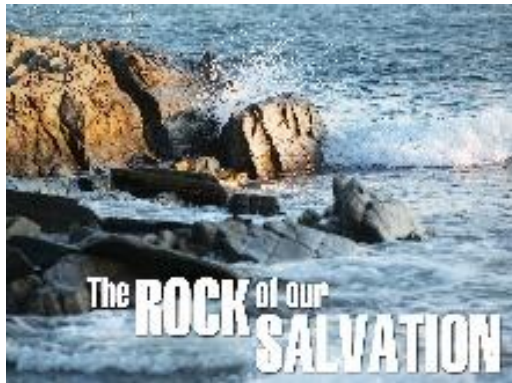
Our April Worship Attendance

April	2022	2023
1 st Sunday in Apr	(E)28 (L)73	155
2 nd Sunday in Apr	(E)38 (L)76	188
3 rd Sunday in Apr	171	(E)46 (L)81
4 th Sunday in Apr	(E)29 (L)64	105
5 th Sunday in Apr		97
Average for April	119	134

*"If you find it in your heart to love
somebody else the way Christ loves you,
you will have succeeded."*



Beginning **June 11th** we will hold two Sunday morning worship services; 8:30 a.m. and 11:00 a.m. There is no reason to miss praising our Lord!



Rock of our Salvation Worship

8:30 a.m. Sunday - June 11, 2023



Thank You's for May 2023:

- ♥ Thank you to Naomi Smith, Janice Smith, Connie McMaster & Toni Smail for helping with the May newsletter mailing.
- ♥ Thank you to everyone who continues to support the Katie's Cupboard Ministry @ St. John's with donations.
- ♥ Thank you to Rose Debnar for the candy for the gathering room and for cleaning and organizing the gathering room and narthex.
- ♥ Thank you to Naomi Smith and Connie McMaster for your help in the office. Chris
- ♥ Thank you to all who helped make and serve refreshments for the Spring concert: Connie McMaster, Toni Smail, Tammy Fleeger, Rick, Juanita & Robert John, Jane Paine, Lynda Howlett, Deb Griffin, Deb & Bill Bouch.
- ♥ Thank you to Connie McMaster & Toni Smail for cleaning the gathering room prior to a funeral dinner.
- ♥ Thank you to Amber & Gary Zurn, Tom & Donna Loughery for arranging, sorting and creating supports in the Katie's cupboard storage.
- ♥ Thank you to everyone who donated coats for our Palm Sunday coat drive!
- ♥ Thank you to all who helped in any way with the funeral dinner for Glee Duncan: Connie McMaster, Toni Smail, Rose Debnar, Deb Griffin, Charlie Bleakney, Ruth Ann Hankey, Cheryl Mechling, Mary Jane Dawson, Nancy Pierce, Diana Ignatz, Betty Mitchell & Carol Runninger.
- ♥ Thank you to Sharon Febinger for weeding and planting the beautiful flowers in the courtyard.
- ♥ Thank you to Dean Crooks for helping to pick up large boxes for VBS decorations.
- ♥ Thank you to Connie McMaster for helping to drive Catechism kids.
- ♥ Thank you to all who helped with our Youth lasagna luncheon: Rick, Juanita & Robert John, Tammy Fleeger, Jessica & Kendall Bailey, Brock, Wendy, Gracie & Brody Hodak, Ella Fennell, Stella & Anna Venesky, Emily & William Bouch, Colvin Adkins and the Smith family.
- ♥ Thank you to everyone who made lasagnas: Juanita John, Smith family, Jessica Bailey, Amber Zurn, Jacilee Adkins, JoAnn George and Sharon Smith and to everyone who donated other food items: Veneskys, Hodaks, Johns, Smoyers, Fennells, Baileys, Bouch & Bowser families! Thank you to EVERYONE!
- ♥ Thank you to all who help support our Children's & Youth ministries at St. John's!

- ♥ Thank you to the Praise band for giving your time and talents to serve God at St. John's!
- ♥ Thank you to all who helped with Fellowship Hours following worship: Susan Mentch, Melissa Venesky, Jack and Debbie Griffin, Nancy Pierce, Marve Gaiser, Tammy Fleeger, Connie McMaster, Nick and Jill Wranich, Bill and Debbie Bouch, Cassidy Smith, Chris and Connie Choncek, and Toni Smail.



Congratulations to our confirmands:

*Colvin Jackson Adkins
Kendall Claude Bailey
Brody Allan Hodak
Noelle Sarina Smoyer
Stella Elizabeth Venesky*



**To the Family of
Glee Duncan**

*Rest eternal grant her, O Lord;
and let light perpetual shine upon her.*



**Internet Streaming
St. John's Live Broadcast**

The St. John's worship service is broadcast live on You Tube each Sunday at 11:00 a.m.

Katie's Cupboard
Summer Stock-Up Challenge
Feed Kids & Promote Play!

BREAKFAST

Cereal, instant oatmeal single packs & bagels.

LUNCH /DINNER

*Shelf stable microwaveable dinners, tuna/hamburger helper, soups, beanie weenies, Spaghettio's, canned ravioli, peanut butter, nut butters, jelly, vienna sausages, ramen noodle cups, pitas, pizza sauce, shelf stable parmesan & easy mac cups.

HEALTHY

Fresh fruit: apples, clementines, bananas, peaches, plums, fresh veggies, fruit cups, raisins, craisins, banana chips, nuts, sunflower & pumpkin seeds, fiber one bars, veggie straws, trail mix no M&Ms, applesauce, dehydrated veggie chips, bottled water, Gatorade & whole grain fig newtons.

SNACKS

Capri sun/ juice boxes, popcorn, pop, otter pops that can be frozen, pretzels, granola bars, vanilla wafers, pudding cups, goldfish, Cheezits, peanut butter crackers, beef jerky, chips & salsa, fruit snacks, & poparts.

SUMMER SUPPLIES

Sunscreen, first aid ointment, bug spray, toothpaste/toothbrushes, feminine hygiene products & bandaids.

FUN

Bubbles, fun dip, squirt guns, water balloons, sidewalk chalk, paint, Old maid & Uno games, frisbee, candy necklaces, jump ropes, outdoor toys, paper & crayons.

Thank you for your support!



**Attention Gardeners
and Worker Bees**

We need your help! We are having a workday to "tidy-up" flower beds and landscaping around the church grounds.

Saturday, June 3, 2023 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
Please bring work gloves and a wheelbarrow, etc.

We could use volunteers to divide & conquer chores...weeding, trimming shrubs & mulching.

Please contact Sharon Febinger @ 724-543-2413 or text 724-859-5649. Thank you!



SUNDAY

**Thanks to all the Youth who lead our worship
service at 11:00 a.m. on Sunday, May 21st!**

Sermon: Anna Choncek and Robert John

Assisting Minister: Mollie Bouch

Children's Sermon: Marlee Smith

Lectors: Calise Czekanski, Delaney Smith, Ashlynn Zurn
and Nesta Adkins

Greeters: Callie Adkins, Gracie Hodak, Ella Fennell,
Anna Venesky

Ushers: William Bouch, Mitchell Wranich, Brody Hodak,
Colvin Adkins

Communion Assistants: Brenna Zurn, Jerah Wranich,
Emily Bouch, Gage Duncan

Anthem: Guitar: Stella Venesky, Piano: Marlee Smith

Vocals: Ella Fennell, Jerah Wranich, Delaney Smith,

Anna Venesky, Brenna Zurn, Cassidy Smith,

Gage Duncan, Nesta Adkins, Robert John

Prelude: Rebecca Veith accompanying with Mollie, Emily
and William Bouch, Jerah and Mitchell Wranich
and Anna Venesky.

A special thank you to Gene Hughes for training our youth
for Youth Sunday and always instructing our acolytes
each week!



Music Ministry

CHURCH MUSIC NOTES

Thanks to the Choir and all the musicians and others who helped to make both of the spring concerts a great evening for all! We appreciate your talents and continued support of the music ministry at St. John's church.

Also looking for singers and musicians to provide special music during the summer months; can you help?

Rebecca Veith

Organist/Director of Music



*"Do not be conformed to this world,
but be transformed by the renewal of your
mind, that by testing you may discern
what is the will of God,
what is good and acceptable and perfect."*

—Romans 12:2

JUNE

June 4 Graduate Recognition

Assisting Minister	Gene Hughes
Lector	Linda Charley
Comm Assistants	Charlie Bleakney, Anna Choncek
	Mollie & Deb Bouch
Acolytes	Kendall Bailey, Quinn Kellner, Emily Bouch,
	Stella Venesky
Camera Operator	Keith Livengood

June 11

Assisting Ministers	John Swanson(E)
	Charlie Bleakney(L)
Lectors	Becky Swanson(E)
	Gene Hughes(L)
Comm Assistants	Becky Swanson, Jill Wranich(E)
Acolytes	Mitchel Wranich(E)
	Colvin Adkins(L)
Camera Operators	Robert John(E)
	Bill Bouch(L)

June 18

Assisting Ministers	Karen Waugaman(E)
	Rose Montgomery(L)
Lectors	Nancy Pierce(E)
	Sara Shafer(L)
Comm Assistants	Karen Waugaman, Nancy Pierce(E)
	Sara Shafer, Cheryl Mechling, Megan & Brett Taylor(L)
Acolytes	Gracie Hodak(E)
	William Bouch(L)
Camera Operators	Nick Wranich(E)
	William Bouch(L)

June 25

Assisting Ministers	Nancy Pierce(E)
	Sara Shafer(L)
Lectors	Karen Waugaman(E)
	Lance Whiteman(L)
Comm Assistants	Karen Waugaman, Nancy Pierce(E)
Acolytes	Noelle Smoyer(E)
	Lucas Bowser(L)
Camera Operators	Robert John(E)
	Bill Bouch(L)

The engine of marriage

Being in love is a good thing, but it is not the best thing. Love is a deep unity, maintained by the will and deliberately strengthened by habit; reinforced by the grace which both partners ask and receive from God. On this love the engine of marriage is run; being in love was the explosion that started it.

—C.S. Lewis

JUNE

Altar Guild: Peggy Goldstrohm, Corinna Stonage

Money Counters: Karen Waugaman, Kraig Walker, John Swanson

Ushers: Mark Hankey, David Hilty, Ed Walker, Kraig Walker

Children's Hour:
See you in the Fall!

St. John's Lutheran Church Staff:

Director of Children's & Youth Ministry	Julie Smith
Secretary	Christine Lettrich
Sexton	Michael Craft
Director of Music/Organist	Rebecca Veith
Sr. Choir Accompanist	Elizabeth Cramer

"Go therefore and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, teaching them to observe all that I have commanded you. And behold, I am with you always, to the end of the age."



<div> June St. John's Lutheran Church 2023 </div>						
Sun	Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat
				1	2	3 Grounds Workday 8:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m.
4 Holy Trinity Sunday Graduate Sunday 9:45 Sunday School 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship: Communion 12:00 Graduate Sunday Reception 6:30 Youth Group	5 7:00 Property	6	7	8	9	10
11 St. Barnabas, Apostle 8:30 Worship: Rock of our Salvation 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship 12:00 Over 80 Luncheon	12 Vacation Bible School 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Toddlers – 5th grade 7:00 Council	13 Vacation Bible School 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Toddlers – 5th grade	14 Vacation Bible School 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Toddlers – 5th grade	15 Vacation Bible School 9:00 a.m. – 12:00 p.m. Toddlers – 5th grade	16	17
18 Third Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 Worship: Communion 10:00 Senior Choir 11:00 Worship: Communion <i>Happy Father's Day!</i>	19 7:00 Mutual Ministry	20	21	22 1:00 Newsletter mailing	23	24
25 Fourth Sunday after Pentecost 8:30 Worship: Communion 11:00 Worship: Communion Reception of New Members	26 Solid Rock Daycamp 9:00a.m. – 3:00 p.m. 7:00 Worship/Music	27 Solid Rock Day camp 9:00a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	28 Solid Rock Day camp 9:00a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	29 Solid Rock Day camp 9:00a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	30 Solid Rock Day camp 9:00a.m. – 3:00 p.m.	