

Pastor Carl's Castings

As Summer seems closer, we begin to shift gears and attention to new things. More than likely we may only get a few moments to savor the feel of Summer's call to slow down a little. So it's time to celebrate a few things.



Congratulations, graduates! Come out June 27th and we will catch up and join your celebration. See in baptism how your success was begun by and in God's love for you.

Among many service projects, "the Potato Project" has gone really well. 70x 50 pound bags of seed potatoes were cut and planted. Now it's time to pray and prepare for harvesting them in the Fall. They'll go to area Food Pantries to feed the hungry. Keep on praying and more for the Duck project.



As beautiful days bring new preoccupations, may we remember our first vocation is God's mission to care for people anywhere and always.



So, as you shift gears or go elsewhere, be vigilant for Christ's sake. Report needs we may be able to address. Share any concerns, joys and thanksgivings we, your church family, can share in mutual prayer, praise and ministry. Bring bulletins from churches you visit, and bring them our greetings in the name of Christ. Please celebrate by sharing with us the good (great!) things God is doing

in those places and people. Keep connected with us (new website, etc.) so that we can be as marvelous in ministry to God's children here. Then visiting friends may be blessed and have stories to tell of God with us.



Oh, one last thing. With the Spirit's help, keep your eyes open to see how God is blessing you on your journeys. You and I should be delighted, even surprised, and have stories to tell.

God bless,

Pastor Carl



ANNUAL SYNOD ASSEMBLY JUNE 18-19

Please PRAY in advance and through the Annual Synod Assembly in Wilkes Barre this June 18-19. Join me in thanking Mark and Darlene Qualio for attending as our voting representatives, with Pastor Carl.

This year our worship and music team has decided NOT to participate in the Folk Festival worship service and planning beforehand. Considerations included that the week was later, Pastor would be on vacation for all or part of the week, etc. HOWEVER, here at St. John's there will be the regularly scheduled services the Sundays of July 4th and 11th, etc. We welcome you for our 9 am summer services.

A PASTORAL NOTE

Please call the church office or Pastor Wenzel if you would like to schedule a home visit or receive communion at home.

If you need to contact him in the event of an emergency, Pastor Wenzel's cell phone number is 610-223-6555, (please note: he will not be able to answer the cell phone when visiting in the hospital).

Redner's Save-A-Tape Program

St. John's participates in the Redner's Save-A-Tape Program. By collecting receipts and sending them to Redner's Corporate office, we can earn 1% of the totals. Each person should stop by the store office or Customer Service area to get a Save-A-Tape card. Each time you shop at Redner's with your card, your receipt will be designated as a Save-A-Tape receipt. Please place receipts in the box in the coat area. We appreciate the funds raised through your efforts in saving your Redner's receipts!

From our Recipes from the Flock Cookbook

President's Message

I John 4:18. Anybody know the verse? I didn't. I was driving down the road the other day and I noticed someone had I John 4:18 as a license plate number. Of course I had to look it up when I got home. The New International Version of the Bible quotes it as, **“There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love.”** Quite a way to make a statement! 146 letters including blank characters, 29 words: all with 8 letters. What I like about this verse is that it tells us we do not have to live in fear if we believe in Jesus. How many people in this world live in fear? Unfortunately quite a few. I believe that trusting in Jesus allows us to be free of fear. If you're ever feeling down, remember how God has blessed you. We are still here for a reason.

There was an article in the Sunday paper about uncivil the world has become. I don't really believe the world is becoming **more** uncivil. It makes great Sunday reading, but the world has always been uncivil. The difference is, now we can all see how uncivil mankind can be. All we have to do is turn on the TV or read a newspaper. Thousands of examples bombard us daily on just how uncivil the world is. But you know what; we can also see and hear of the great humanity of mankind instantaneously. Instead of an article on how rude we can all be, I wish the article had been on all the good things we do for each other in our time of need. Yes we are all rude at times and know we should be more understanding, but when it gets right down to it, when it really counts, most of us can be counted on to do the right thing.

The Pastor, Darlene, and I will be attending the Annual Synod meeting in Mid June. I will give you a full report next month as to what was discussed at this year's meeting.

I would like to congratulate the newly confirmed on their successful completion of the Catechetical instruction. I hope all of you will stay active and entice your peers to become more involved also.

If you have any concerns about what's happening in the church, please let one of the council members know, so we can discuss it!

I hope you all have a nice summer.

Sincerely,

Mark S. Qualio
St. John's Congregational
Council President

Congratulations to
Confirmands May 23 10:30 AM Service

Philip Cordell Moyer
Bailey Solon Shade
Kendra Hope Smith

Graduating?

If you or someone you know has graduated since last June or graduated this spring, please contact the church office (610-683-3140). For college graduates, please include the name of their major along with their name and school. **We don't want anyone left out so please send Janice the information and she will list this in the July Spire. Thank you!**

Congratulations **Allie Steigerwalt**, sophomore at Shippensburg University. Made Dean's list Fall and Winter semesters.

Applying Bible Principles

Suppose that God allowed you to have one wish. Without limit, you could have anything you desire. You could have unlimited wealth. You could have perfect health and live 1,000 years — or more. You could — like Solomon — have great wisdom. Whatever you want, you may have it. But you only get one wish. What would you choose?

Sad to say, many people would choose great wealth and material possessions. Unfortunately, that would not be a good choice. Listen to the counsel of God as expressed in this contemporary translation of Proverbs 27:20 through Solomon, one of the richest people who ever lived — “The eyes of man are never satisfied.” The behavior and attitude which always wants more has a name: Greed, and it demonstrates itself in our lives as though we were at an auction. If we have \$5, we want \$10; if we have \$10, we want \$20; if we have \$20 we want \$30. Solomon went on to say in Ecclesiastes 5:10, “The lover of money will not be satisfied with money; nor the lover of wealth, with gain.”

A better choice would be to ask for God’s perspective on life and all that life entails. When we see life as God does, we realize that everything belongs to Him, that we are just managers and stewards, and that only what is done for Him will endure for eternity. When we have God’s perspective, we will be able to say with the Apostle Paul, “. . . I have learned to be content with whatever I have.”

When we have God’s perspective, we will accept with a spirit of peace and restfulness whatever He entrusts to us. And when we have God’s perspective, we will put into practice the truth of Hebrews 13:5 — “Keep your lives free from the love of money, and be content with what you have; for he has said, ‘I will never leave you or forsake you.’”

- *Stewardship Committee*

Opportunities for Service and Growth!

Are you looking for new ways to serve at St. John's? We have opportunities in our stewardship activities including presenting temple talks, as a committee member planning and completing activities throughout the year or helping with specific projects such as the fall stewardship campaign. Please contact me if you would like to learn more about our stewardship program and our opportunities for service and growth.

Larry Schappell
larry@schappell.com



5370 Allentown Pike Temple, PA 19560

Reading-Berks Habitat for Humanity is very proud to announce the opening of the new, bigger and better ReStore in the North Reading Shopping Plaza! (Between Sam's and Wal-Mart in Temple) The ReStore sells donated Appliances, Building Materials and Furniture, and uses the proceeds from the sales to build more Habitat Homes in Berks County. We're now on Facebook! Search **Berks ReStore** and become a "Fan" for the latest news, sales and specials.

Please call the ReStore at **610-921-1315** or email to restore@rbhabitat.org if you have items to donate. You can drop your items off when you come to shop or schedule a time for us to come and pick up your larger items. A complete list of items accepted for donation can be found at www.rbhabitat.org.

Berks ReStore is currently looking for volunteers with pickup trucks or box trucks to help with donation pickups on Saturdays. Email or call the store for more information.

2010 FLAG DAY CONCERT

PLEASE NOTE – THIS IS A CHANGE IN DATE

The 2010 Flag Day concert in the Kutztown Park Bandshell will be presented on MONDAY, JUNE 14, at 7:30 p.m. This change from the traditional date of the Tuesday nearest Flag Day has been made because the commencement exercises of Kutztown Area High School have been scheduled for the evening of June 15. If you are interested in attending this event, please mark the date on your calendar.

Following welcome remarks from Marie DeFilipps, president of Kutztown Rotary Club, the colors will be presented by the color guard of the Topton American Legion Post. The audience will be invited to join in singing the National Anthem. Richard Kelchner, local vexilologist, will have flags from his collection of historic American flags on display and will comment on several of the flags.

As in recent years, musically talented seniors from Kutztown Area High School will be featured with the Pennsylvania German Symphonette under the direction of Dr. Frank Siekmann. The orchestra will also play several other selections. The Kutztown Community Choir, directed by J. Richard Wagner, will present a variety of choral selections, including music of Cole Porter and George and Ira Gershwin. The choir will be accompanied by piano with rhythm instruments.

The audience will be invited to join in a brief sing-a-long, and veterans in the audience will be recognized during the “Armed Forces Salute” by combined choir and orchestra. The combined musical groups will also present “IRVING BERLIN – A Choral Portrait” and John Philip Sousa’s popular “Stars and Stripes Forever” as the finale. The concert will be presented, rain or shine.



Daycare Highlights

Another school year at St. John's is winding down. We will be ending our Preschool year program June 11th. May has been an awesome way to end our Preschool year. We learned how things grow in the garden, we made beautiful gifts for Mom, and learned the life cycle of a butterfly. Both of our classrooms have live caterpillars in them that we can't wait to release as butterflies!

The children went on 3 field trips this past month. We spent a morning at Breinigsville Park and the Davis Dairy Farm. Both of these trips were fun with lots of hands on learning. The children also spent a morning at the Kutztown Fire Station. We learned a lot and had fun with Officer Hirko.

Mrs. McGonigle's class graduated from Preschool May 25th and will be heading off to Kindergarten in the Fall. Everyone here at St. John's wished our graduates a wonderful Kindergarten adventure.

Our Summer Program will begin Mon., June 14. If you know anyone who needs summer daycare, please give us a call at (610) 683-5402.

Have a great Summer, thank you for sharing another school year with us!

Daycare Staff



Preschool News

Mrs. Leibensperger's 4 Year Old Class

It's hard to believe that we have reached the end of Preschool. The year went by so fast!

This month our color was purple, our number was 10 and our letters were Y and Z.

We had a lot of outside time this month. We went to 2 parks and had snack and lunch there. The children really enjoyed doing chalk drawings and making giant bubbles.

The highlight of the month was graduation night. The children looked so grown up in their graduation caps, standing on the stage, singing their hearts out! It was beautiful! After graduation we enjoyed refreshments. The children deserved a treat!

Our year end picnic was at Dalton Furst's house. Good food, fun and relaxation!

We still have a few openings left for the next school year. For information call Jane Leibensperger at 610-683-3050.

Have a great Summer!

Mrs. Leibensperger

Mrs. Deeter's 3 Year Old Class

Our Preschool year in the 3 year old class is about to end. We have had a great year learning many new things and making lots of new friends.

This past month we have watched caterpillars become butterflies and learned how to take care of our Earth. Our special color this month was purple and our Spanish word of the month was flora for flower.

We have taken walks to the Kutztown Park and had a special park day at Breinigsville Park and ate lunch there.

The children performed and had a beautiful Mother's Day Tea for all our Mommies in honor of Mother's Day.

We hope everyone has a great Summer and hope to see everyone in September!

Mrs. Deeter



**Next Meeting (2nd Wednesday) June 9
Virginville Hotel
5:30PM**

Order from Menu
Dessert in Fellowship Hall afterward
Bring wrapped prizes for games.

adam

**At St. John's Lutheran Church
Kutztown**

9 Am Sun., June 13th

**A Special Cantata on the Story
of Adam and Eve in the Garden of Eden**

Adam Rabenold: Adam

Jesse Miller: Eve

Children's Choir

Elizabeth Diehl, Caroline Fenstermacher,
Victoria Fenstermacher, Kiana Haring
Trista Smith, Karissa Weida

With St. John's Senior Choir

Thank You Notes

Dear St. John's,

Recently I received a beautiful floral arrangement. It was very colorful and greatly appreciated. Also thank you to Anna Herman for delivering.

Sincerely,

Catherine Kramer

Dear St. John's Lutheran Church,

Thank you for the beautiful flower arrangement and all who have visited me at Grand View Manor. The flowers brighten my day.

Amy Seip

Memorial Contributions Received

In Memory of Esther Bieber

Catherine Bieber

In Memory of Doris Eck

Brook and Karen Snyder

In Memory of Edwin K. Wessner

Eloise G. Wessner-Tucker

HOSPITALIZED

Here are the appropriate codes assigned to us by the respective hospitals in Allentown and Reading. Lehigh Valley Hospital and St. Luke's Hospital – 282; Reading Hospital – 512; St. Joseph's Hospital – LU 60. You can use these codes if you are undergoing elective surgery or you can call the chaplain's office at each hospital and ask them to list you under our congregation's code for that institution.

Meals on wheels



June, July, and August are **FEAST FOR FRIEND** months! Mark your calendar for a girls night out, a birthday celebration, or a family fun night—whatever the occasion, please consider the following restaurants for breakfast, lunch or dinner, and remember you need a voucher for TGI Friday’s (found at our website).

TK’s Sushi House: June 3

164 W. Main St., Kutztown

Global Libations: June 24

21 E Main St., Kutztown

TGI Friday’s*: July 1

305 N. Park Rd., Wyomissing

*Voucher available at friendinc.org

CC’s Wooden Grill: July 29

100 N. Constitution Blvd., Kutztown

Janelle Restaurant: Aug. 5

60 Fleetwood Rd., Bowers

Breakfast and Lunch only

The Market Café: Aug. 26

28 Centre Ave., Topton



Brake^{the} Cycle Poverty

Come join us on **August 8th**, for the 1st annual ‘**Brake the Cycle of Poverty**’—A bike ride and family fun day from 9-1PM at the Kutztown Park. You will have the option to ride as an individual or family (\$25 individual, \$40 family advanced registration includes a free T-shirt for bikers). Choose from 10, 20, 25, 35, or 50 mile rides. We will have SAG support, EMT at the park, food for registered riders, goodie bags, coupons, prizes and more. Don’t want to ride? Come to the park and support the rider in your family and enjoy the family fun day. For more information visit www.friendinc.org

\$5 raffle gets you a chance to win a brand new mountain bike!

Friend, Inc. Community Services is a non-profit organization serving families and individuals living in Northeastern Berks County. We are looking for your support for our programs and services. If you are interested in volunteering, fundraising, or donating, please call (610) 683-7790 or email erica@friendinc.org.

Community. Compassion. Commitment.

HELP WANTED

Vacation Bible School needs:

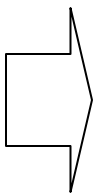
Snack providers, teachers and teacher helpers , props builders and painters, ladder climbers, PR/advertise. daily drop-off (1-5x).

For more information please call the church office at 610-683-3140.



World Hunger will be the service focus throughout the year. Envelopes will be placed in *The Spire* this month, also in the overflow area. We encourage you to share your blessings with those most unfortunate. Both food and water are in scarce supply. Existing waters (when not in drought) are often contaminated to the distribution of food and water, but assist in improving water sources and food production through agricultural technician trainers.

Remember – hunger exists daily throughout the world, not only at the time we share our gifts.



THANK YOU to those who have contributed during the month of May!

The Service Team



<http://www.stjohnslutherankutztown.org>

We have had many positive responses to the look and accessibility of our new website! We are very excited about this new step in St. John's outreach and look forward to adding more news of our events to the website.

You may email digital photos to Stjohns@hometownu.com

BIBLE STUDY:

Thursday morning Bible Study Group – 9:30 AM

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE:

Articles for The Spire should be submitted to the office by Tuesday, June 15. We will assemble the newsletter Thursday, June 24. Volunteers always needed. Please call the office if interested.

DEATHS

We note with sorrow the passing of:

ESTHER BIEBER on Sunday, May 9, 2010

And

MARY ARNOLD on Saturday, May 22, 2010

Please keep their families in your prayers.



June Sponsorships

The following people are scheduled to sponsor bulletins, candles and flowers during June:

BULLETINS

6-6 Carol Diehl
6-13 Diehl grandchildren
6-20 Open
6-27 Tim and Diane Fenstermacher

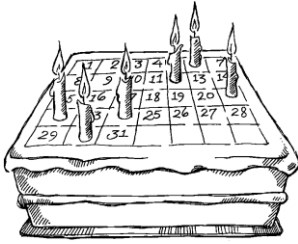
CANDLES

6-6 Pam Heid
6-13 Carol Diehl
6-20 Open
6-27 Open

FLOWERS

6-6 Amy Koenig
6-13 Sue Parkes
6-20 Barbara Green
6-27 Valerie Miller

Please complete the sponsorship form and submit it along with your payment to the office at least one week before the date of your sponsorship. To ensure proper credit on your giving statement, please submit a form to the office.



June Birthdays

June 1	Baylee Zimmerman	June 16	Brock Rabenold
June 2	Carter Diehl		Evan Steigerwalt
	Annabella Genta		Anna Warmkessel
	Carl Wessner	June 17	Ernest Mertz
June 4	Richard Applegate		Feryl Stein
June 5	Merrily DeTurk	June 18	Helen Carr
	Carol Diehl	June 20	Mary Williams
	Barbara Weber	June 22	Austin Smith
June 6	Zachary Cutlip	June 24	Kain Cavalier
June 7	Jessica Bailey		Joan Rentschler
	Richard Baldwin	June 25	Hunter Kennedy
June 8	Marlowe Leibensperger	June 27	Spencer DeTurk
June 10	Allison Reitenauer		Rudolph Leimbach
June 11	Julie Bortz	June 28	Chantel Cavalier
	Alisha Derr		Shirley Eidle
	Judith Hilberg		Caroline Fenstermacher
	Jarod Lentz		Clifford Hilberg
June 12	Elizabeth Diehl	June 29	Matthew Becker
June 13	Paula Kutz		Ivan Cronrath
June 14	Jared Diehl		Gerald Koenig
	Donald Sechler		Arline Mertz
June 15	Kayley Derr	June 30	Mark Qualio
	Nancy Readinger		James Lerch, Sr.

If you notice that your birthday or the birthday of someone you know is not listed among those in The Spire, which means that the birthday information is not entered in the church's computer. Please contact the church office and let us know of anyone missing from the birthday list. We want everyone to be included.