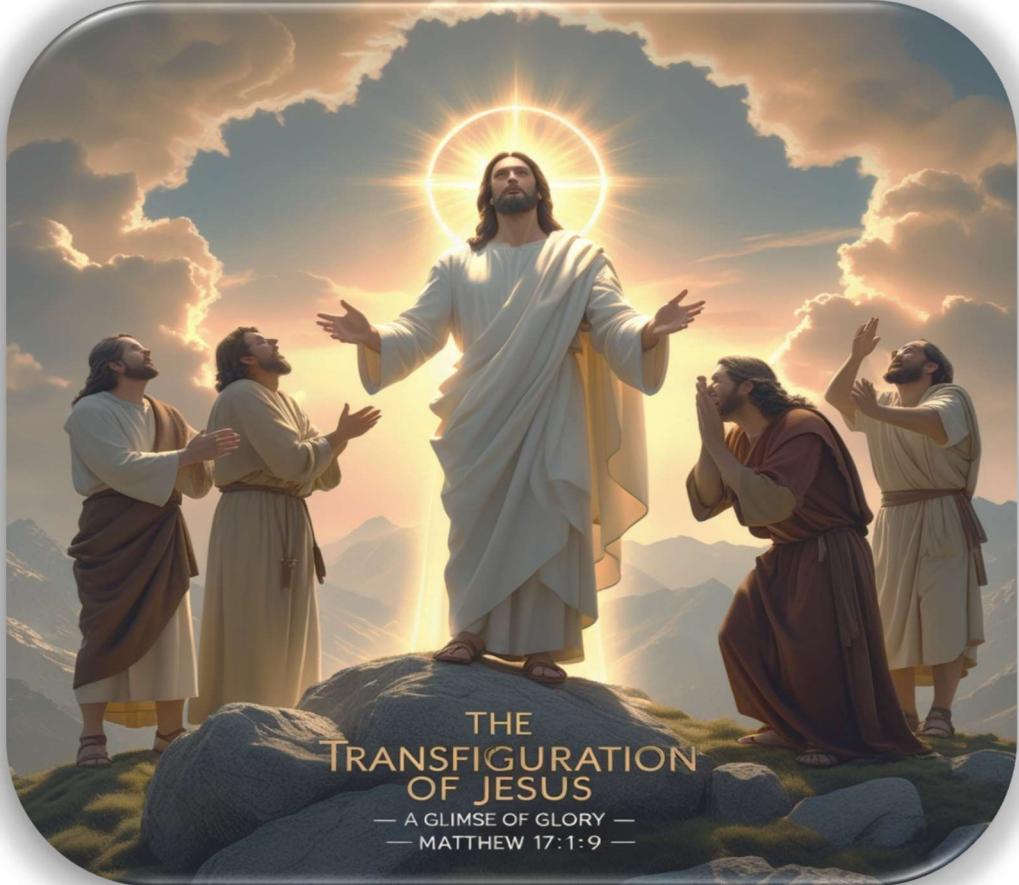


FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER 2026

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mahoning

826 Mahoning Drive West; Lehighton Pa 18235 • Church office: 570-386-9960 • Email address: stjohns@ptd.net
Website: www.stjohnsmahoning.org • Facebook at StJohnsMahoning • "A Family of friends alive with God's love!"



Church Staff

Pastor	Reverend Anthony Pagotto (610-377-4242)
Music Director	Colleen Rudelitsch
Bookkeeper	Cathy Smith
Sexton	Sherry Stafiniak
Church Admin	Anne Scott
Church Office	570-386-9960
Church Office hours	M-W-F 9 AM-2 PM

<u>2026 Church Council</u>		
<i>Reverend</i> Anthony Pagotto	<i>President</i>	Allison Everett, <i>V. President</i>
Donald Freeman,		
Keith Drummond	Geoff Ebbert	Julia Schock
Ronald Fried	Kimberly Gerhard	Cheryl Kistler
Colleen Rudelitsch		

Worship Schedule for February 2026 at St. John's

Feb 1 – 11 AM – Fellowship Hall Worship *with Holy Communion* – **12:30** – Confirmation Class (SJ)

Feb 8 – 11 AM – Sanctuary Service

Feb 15 – 11 AM – Fellowship Hall Worship *with Holy Communion Transfiguration of Our Lord*

Feb 22 – 11 AM – Sanctuary Service *with Holy Communion*
12:30 PM – Confirmation Class to Campton Funeral Home

***March 1 – 11 AM** – Fellowship Hall Worship *with Holy Communion* – **Annual Congregational Meeting**

February 2026 Daily Lectionary Readings

Sunday, February 01, 2026: Psalm 15; 1 Corinthians 1:18-31; Matthew 5:1-12

Monday, February 02, 2026: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 1:1-18; Philemon 1-25

Monday, February 02, 2026: Psalm 24:7-10; Hebrews 2:14-18; Luke 2:22-40

Tuesday, February 03, 2026: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 2:1-16; James 5:1-6

Wednesday, February 04, 2026: Psalm 37:1-17; Ruth 3:1-13; 4:13-22; Luke 6:17-26

Thursday, February 05, 2026: Psalm 112:1-9; Deuteronomy 4:1-14; 1 John 5:1-5

Friday, February 06, 2026: Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:1-12; James 3:13-18

Saturday, February 07, 2026: Psalm 112:1-9; Isaiah 29:13-16; Mark 7:1-8

Sunday, February 08, 2026: Psalm 112:1-9 (10); 1 Corinthians 2:1-12 (13-16); Matthew 5:13-20

Monday, February 09, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; 2 Kings 22:3-20; Romans 11:2-10

Tuesday, February 10, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; 2 Kings 23:1-8, 21-25; 2 Corinthians 4:1-12

Wednesday, February 11, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; Proverbs 6:6-23; John 8:12-30

Thursday, February 12, 2026: Psalm 2; Exodus 6:2-9; Hebrews 8:1-7

Friday, February 13, 2026: Psalm 2; Exodus 19:9b-25; Hebrews 11:23-28

Saturday, February 14, 2026: Psalm 2; 1 Kings 21:20-29; Mark 9:9-13

Sunday, February 15, 2026: Psalm 99; 2 Peter 1:16-21; Matthew 17:1-9

Monday, February 16, 2026: Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55; Exodus 33:7-23; Acts 7:30-34

Tuesday, February 17, 2026: Psalm 78:17-20, 52-55; 1 Kings 19:9-18; Romans 11:1-6

Wednesday, February 18, 2026: Psalm 51:1-17; 2 Corinthians 5:20b-6:10; Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

Thursday, February 19, 2026: Psalm 51; Jonah 3:1-10; Romans 1:1-7

Friday, February 20, 2026: Psalm 51; Jonah 4:1-11; Romans 1:8-17

Saturday, February 21, 2026: Psalm 51; Isaiah 58:1-12; Matthew 18:1-7

Sunday, February 22, 2026: Psalm 32; Romans 5:12-19; Matthew 4:1-11

Monday, February 23, 2026: Psalm 32; 1 Kings 19:1-8; Hebrews 2:10-18

Tuesday, February 24, 2026: Psalm 32; Genesis 4:1-16; Hebrews 4:14-5:10

Wednesday, February 25, 2026: Psalm 32; Exodus 34:1-9, 27-28; Matthew 18:10-14

Thursday, February 26, 2026: Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:1-3; 2 Timothy 1:3-7

Friday, February 27, 2026: Psalm 121; Micah 7:18-20; Romans 3:21-31

Saturday, February 28, 2026: Psalm 121; Isaiah 51:4-8; Luke 7:1-10

Morning Prayer Zoom

Wednesdays at 9:00 AM

<http://zoom.us/j/187911224>

Meeting ID: 187 911 224

Call in: 1-929-205-6099

Bible Study Zoom

Thursdays at 9:30 AM

<http://us02web.zoom.us/j/376540617>

Meeting ID: 376 540 617

Call in: 1-929-205-6099



2/3 Kynlee Lees
2/3 Crystal Kunkle
2/7 Jordan Knappenberger
2/18 Carey Kunkle
2/28 Brenda Lasky

2/3 Kay Gilbert
2/4 Pastor Pagotto
2/13 Regina Fisher
2/20 Tristan Balliet

(If we missed your birthday for this month, it is possible we do not have it in our membership database. Please give us a call at the office (570-386-9960) so we can update our files.)

Grief Support- will meet on **Monday, February 2nd & 16th at 6 PM.**

Book Club- will meet **Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30 PM** with book "Here One Moment" by Lianne Moriarty.

Dinner & Discussion- will be taking break for the Winter months. There will be no Dinner & Discussion in the months of December, January, and February. We will meet next on **Thursday, March 19, 2026 at 6:30 PM**. Please contact **Cheryl Kistler at 610-533-5723**.

Fundraising Committee- will be taking a break and will meet next on **Tuesday, February 24th at 6:30 PM** (also stuffing raffle tickets).

Community Cupboard- **Dinkey Memorial** has a food cupboard available to those in need of supplemental food resources. It is **available to members of Dinkey Memorial and St. John's, and to residents of East Penn**

Township. The distribution is the **third Thursday of every month from 3:30-5:00 PM** in Dinkey's Social Room, located below the sanctuary. If you or anyone you know would benefit from receiving food from the Community Cupboard, please speak with Pr. Tony.

Message from the Fundraising Team:

♦ We will be baking, icing, & packaging the Donut Day donuts on Mon. Feb 16th beginning around 9am. You will receive a One Call reminder. If you're able to help, this sale is our busiest. In the weeks leading up to our annual Spring Bazaar, we will be preparing food & freezing it. If you're interested in helping, we'll be announcing those dates soon.



Council Meetings are held the second Monday of every month unless otherwise noted.
(Complete copies of the minutes may be obtained from the church office.)

January Council Meeting – Items Discussed

- Jan. 18th will be a joint service at Dinkey to celebrate Madison DeLuca's graduation from seminary. St John's will give a matched donation for a gift certificate to Madison.
- The Lent/Easter schedule is being finalized between the Ben Salem, St Peter's, Zion Stone Pastors and Pastor Tony.
- Upcoming dates: 4/12 joint service at Dinkey for their 175th Anniversary, 5/16 Spring Cleaning, 5/24 Confirmation, 7/19 Smith Scholarship & Graduate recognition, 10/10 (Saturday) Blessing of the Animals, 10/11 Crop Walk.
- The next scheduled meeting is: **Tuesday, February 10, 2026 at 7:30 PM.**

******A reminder to everyone that council meetings are open to all members of St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church.**

****Reminder of notification when canceling meetings and events****

This is a gentle reminder that if you need to cancel a meeting or event at the church, any time of the year, please contact the church office, at 570-386-9960, during office hours (Mon, Wed, Fri 9-2) or text/call our Sexton, Sherry Stafiniak, at 610-349-8168, to advise of the cancellation.

Thank you for your attention to this matter.

Prayers for our Congregation Members

Family of Diane Berner
Lisa Moyer Neil Gilbert
Marlin Frey Betty Frey
Cliff Gledhill Florence Duffy
Allane Kistler Timothy Gerhard
Donna Horvath Jeanette Jennings

Marilyn Frey
Connie Christman
Arthur Rudelitsch
Diane Gould
Brenda Lasky

Donna Tyson
Mike Andrews
Stacy Freeman
Liz Koch
Bart Cunfer

Prayers for Our Friends

Family of Robert Hoffman
Richard Koch Mackenzie
Jen Nielsen Wesley King
Chris Green Stewart Henritz
Nicole M. Rowles Vince Rodgers
Dan Myers

Randy Semmel
Lyman Gruber
Fern Miller
Kathy Steigerwalt
Barbara Kerschner

Karen Rudelitsch
Joanie Radler
Dolores Solt
Nichole Hydro
Shirley Long

Please also pray for

Victims, families, and first responders in all emergent situations.

Doctors without Borders.

Global Refuge.

Those struggling with mental health.

The People of Israel and Gaza.

Refugees all over the world.

The Children of Ukraine.

The Homeless.

Prayers for Our Homebound and Long-Term Care Members

Judith Ahner Willard Ahner Rachel Bednar
Robert Berger Marie Boyer Myrtle Creitz
Joan Heintzelman Scott Heintzelman Carol Houser
Kathryn Leibenguth Franklin Mertz Dorothy Reinhart
Betty Willet Elaine Windbeck Carolyn Zacharias

Ferne Berger
Mary Flyzik
Mary Ann Kollar
Ruth Troxell

Our Military Personnel at Home and Abroad

Dalton Berger Daniel Berger Douglas Boyer
Aaron Cetnar Sean Fisher Austin Heilman
AJ Light Ryan McArdle Dustin McCarroll
Alexis Scott Jonathan Sheehan Dylan White

•If you wish to put yourself, a friend or loved one on the church prayer list, please call the church office at 570-386-9960 or email stjohns@ptd.net). The name is placed on the list for 30 days unless we receive a monthly update. Please feel free to let the office know if someone should be removed as well. Thank you!



Winter Weather is approaching!!! The church uses One Call phone automation to pass along important information. One of the purposes is to inform you if church is cancelled. Be sure you're on our One Call for alerts regarding church closings or event changes. We also list church snow closures on wfmz.com.

REQUEST FROM CEMETERY COMMITTEE:

We need help to relocate a Vietnam Military Marker. The marker was found on the grave of someone who was never in the military. If you know someone that is buried in our cemetery and served in the Vietnam War, would you please contact Robbie Hawk, Vice President of the Cemetery Committee, at 484-264-0426 with this information. We would like to get this Military Marker relocated to the correct grave site as soon as possible.

Thank you!

St. John's Annual Congregational Meeting

Our Annual Congregational Meeting will be held on **Sunday, March 1, 2026**, following morning worship in the social hall. The purpose of this meeting is to discuss the church committees' summary of last year and the upcoming plans for this year. Please join us for this meeting and share in the conversation.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
826 Mahoning Drive West
Lehighton, PA 18235
570-386-9960





Donut Sale



Wednesday, May 6

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church

Order by Sunday April 19

Call/Text/Email Anne Yenser at 570-390-9108/anneyens@ptd.net

Name _____ Phone# _____

_____(1) Persian X \$2.50	_____
_____(2) Iced Long Johns X \$5.00	_____
_____(2) Coconut Long Johns X \$5.50	_____
Total \$ _____	

Pick up

_____(1) Wed. 3:30-5 PM _____ (2) Thurs. 9-10:00 AM

Trinity Food Pantry 2026

February
March

Pork & Beans
Tuna

SPRING BAZAAR

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL
LUTHERAN CHURCH



826 Mahoning Drive W.
Lehighton, PA 18235

Friday March 27
5 - 7:30 PM

We will donate
10% of our profit to
Mahoning Valley Fire Co
& Ambulance Assoc.

Saturday, March 28
9 AM-2 PM

- Basket Raffle
- Easter Candy
- Bake Sale
- Potato Filling
- Variety of Food



FREE EGG HUNT • 11 AM • Up to Age 12

St John's Candy Sale

Milk/Dark - Butter Cream, Peanut Rolled Butter Cream, Peanut Butter, Peanut Rolled Peanut Butter, Molasses Coconut, Coconut, Nonpareils
\$7.50

Milk/White/Dark - Solid Pieces \$7.50

Milk/Dark - Pretzel Snaps \$6.50

Milk/Dark - 4 oz Peanut Butter Egg \$4.50

White/Milk - Bunny Lollipop \$2.50

Orders & Money due by: Sunday, March 15th

Order forms found around church or call
Anne Yenser 570-390-9108 or
the church office 570-386-9960

From our friends at Dinkey Memorial

Fundraising: Dinkey is selling Streak free cloths; \$5 each. Please contact Jan in the office if interested (610)377-4242.

Giant Gift Cards: If you would like to purchase Giant gift cards please contact Kathy Steigerwalt at (540)250-6539. Cards are in \$100, \$50 and \$25 denominations. We receive 5% from each gift card sold.

Clothing Bin: Dinkey is sponsoring a clothing bin to collect clothing, stuffed animals, sneakers, belts, purses, blankets, sheets, drapes & pillowcases. They ask that NO rags, pillows, fabric scraps, toys or household goods be put in the bin. The bin is located in the parking lot of Dinkey Memorial Church.

Seeking Raffle Ticket Prizes!

The Fundraising Committee is
looking for raffle prizes
valued at \$50 or more!

Questions?
Contact Anne Yenser
570-390-9108

*Thank you for
your generosity!*



Thank You!

To All - Have a nice holiday. God Bless you all.

Thank you for the visit. I think of you always, and wish you all well!

-Love, Judy & Willard Ahner

Thank you for the gift from the church members. It means so much to me at Christmas.

Myrtle Creitz

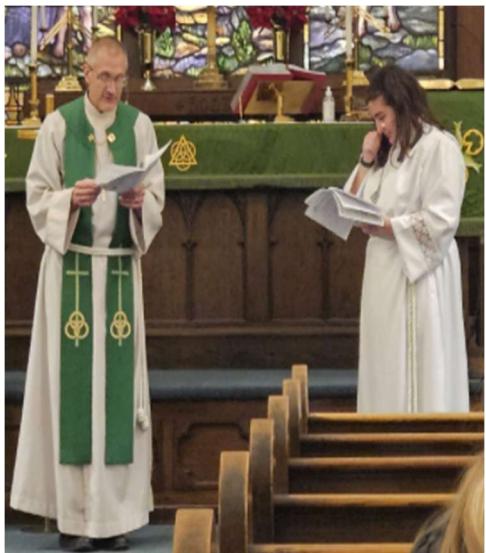
Christmas Greetings! We hope this season of joy, hope, love & faith brightens your holiday season! We bring you glad tidings of both comfort & joy! Merry Christmas & a Joyous New Year of 2026!

From: Kirsten & Sierra

Here are some photos of our beautifully decorated sanctuary for Christmas Eve Service.



On Sunday, January 18, 2026, St John's and Dinkey Memorial held a joint service (at Dinkey Memorial) to celebrate Madison DeLuca's graduation from Seminary. Congratulations Madison! We are very proud of your accomplishments!



2026
Class of

**SOUP
SALE**
SOUPS, STEWS, DIPS
& BAKED GOODS

**SATURDAY,
FEBRUARY 7**
CARBON PLAZA MALL
8am-NOON

LAHS SENIOR CLASS
ALL NIGHT PARTY

LAHS Class of '26

Basket Raffle

Saturday, March 7th, 2026



Doors open: 10:00 AM
Drawing: 4:00 PM

Over 100 baskets and gift cards, big ticket items
featuring chances to win Phillies tickets, Penn State
tickets, basket of cheer, lucky loot and more!

Concessions will be available as well as
homemade soup and baked good sales!

Lehighton Rec Center
243 South 8th Street, Lehighton
PA 18235

All proceeds benefit LAHS Class of '26 All Night Party

2026 Lent and Easter Schedule

Ash Wednesday, February 18, 2026

2:00PM at Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church
1742 Dinkey Road, Lehighton, PA 18235
7:00PM at St. Peter's Church
184 St. Peter's Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252



Midweek Lenten Worship at 7:00PM on the following dates:

Wednesday, February 25, 2026 at
St. John's Lutheran Church, 826 Mahoning Drive West, Lehighton
Wednesday, March 4, 2026 at
Ben Salem UCC, 1965 Church Hill Road, Lehighton, PA 18235
Wednesday, March 11, 2026 at
Zion Stone Church, 45 Cemetery Road, New Ringgold, PA 17960
Wednesday, March 18, 2026 at
St. Peter's Church, 184 St. Peter's Road, Tamaqua, PA 18252
Wednesday, March 25, 2026 at
Dinkey Memorial Lutheran Church, 1825 Dinkey Road, Lehighton

Spring Bazaar at St. John's LC, Mahoning

Friday, March 27, 2026, 5:00 – 7:30PM
Saturday, March 28, 2026, 9:00AM – 2:00PM
Easter Egg Hunt, Saturday at 11:00AM



Maundy Thursday, April 2, 2026
7:00PM at Ben Salem UCC

Good Friday, April 3, 2026
7:00PM at St. John's, Mahoning

Easter Sunday, April 5, 2026

6:30AM Sunrise worship in Dinkey Memorial Cemetery
7:00AM Breakfast at Dinkey Memorial LC
9:00AM Worship at Dinkey Memorial LC
10:15AM Easter Egg Hunt in Dinkey Memorial Cemetery
11:00AM Worship at St. John's LC, Mahoning



14th Annual All you can Eat Spaghetti Dinner!

Hosted by: The Sword Tag Society

WHERE: Lehighton Recreation Center

WHEN: Saturday, April 11th from 4pm to 8pm

COST: \$12.00 for Adults

\$6.00 for Children under 12

Includes Spaghetti with plain or meat sauce, dinner rolls, salad, and drinks.

Takeout Available

We will also be having a...

Basket Raffle & Bake Sale

Raffle Drawing to begin at 7:30PM.
Proceeds to benefit the restoration of the
Normal Square Chapel.

www.swordtag.com



Pork and Sauerkraut

Take Out Dinner

February 7, 2026

4pm-6:30pm

Jacob's UCC

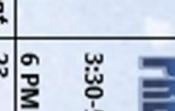
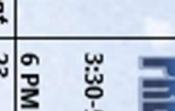
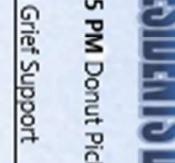
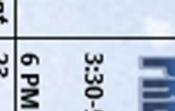
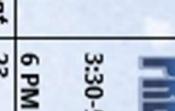
138 Franklin St. Weissport

\$13.00 per dinner

**includes Pork meatballs, hot dog,
mashed potatoes, sauerkraut, corn,
bread and choice of homemade
dessert**

Limited eat in space available

Crafts and Rada products for sale

Sunday	Monday Office 9-2	Tuesday	Wednesday Office 9-2	Thursday	Friday Office 9-2	Saturday
1  4 Epiphany	2  Presentation of Our Lord	3  11 AM Fellowship Hall with Holy Communion	4 12:30 PM Confirmation Class (SJ)	5  9 AM Prayer with Pastor	6 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor	7
8  5 Epiphany	9  6 PM Grief Support	10  10 AM Pastor at Palmer House	11 7:30 PM Council Meeting	12 9 AM Prayer with Pastor	13 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor	14 Valentine's Day
15  Transfiguration of Our Lord	16  PRESIDENT'S DAY	17 9-10 AM Donut Pickup	18 Ash Wednesday	19 9 AM Prayer with Pastor	20 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor	21
22  1 Lent	23  6 PM Grief Support	24 Ash Wednesday Services: 2 PM – Dinkley Memorial 7 PM – St Peter's West Penn	25 9 AM Prayer with Pastor	26 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor	27 7 PM Midweek Lent Service at St John's	28
11 AM Sanctuary Service with Holy Communion 12:30 PM Confirmation Class to Campion Funeral Home 2:30 PM Hall/Kitchen Rented Hosting Mission Meeting for President Council. Joint host with Dinkley. (Julia S. & Rich D.)						

February