

MAY 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!"

¹When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ²Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues as the Spirit enabled them. (Acts 2:1-4)



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

2026 Church Council

Reverend Anthony Pagotto		
Donald Freeman, President	Allison Everett, V. President	
Keith Drummond	Geoff Ebbert	Julia Schock
Ronald Fried	Kimberly Gerhard	Cheryl Kistler
Colleen Rudelitsch		

Worship Schedule for MAY 2026 at St. John's

May 3 – 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall *with Holy Communion*
12:30 PM Confirmation Class (DM)

May 10 – 9-10 AM Mother's Day Breakfast (Fellowship Hall) **11 AM** Sanctuary Worship

May 17 – 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall Worship
12:30 PM Confirmation Rehearsal **1 PM** Hall/Kitchen Rental (member)

May 24 – 9 AM Memorial Day Service outside (weather permitting) **11 AM** Sanctuary Worship with Holy Communion (wear red) **Day of Confirmation**

May 31 – 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall Worship with Holy Communion



5/1 Ryanne Stroup

5/5 Jaden DeBlasio

5/7 Ann Everett

5/9 Stacy Freeman

5/14 Madeleine Merluzzi

5/27 Janice Hoffman

5/2 Carolyn Zacharias

5/6 Neil Gilbert

5/9 Ethan Neeb

5/13 Myron Everett

5/25 Eleanor Andrews

5/29 Ryan Scheckler

(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, May 4th & May 18th at 6 PM.**

Book Club- will meet **Tuesday, May 26th at 6 PM** a watch the movie "Remarkably Bright Creatures" in the family room.

Dinner & Discussion- will meet on **Thursday, May 21st at 6:30 PM.** Please contact **Cheryl Kistler at 610-533-5723** with any questions.

Fundraising Committee- will meet next on **Wednesday, October 14th at 6:30 PM.**

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 donuts on Tues, May 5th. If you're able to help, stop by anytime between 9:30am & 1pm.
 - ◆ Donut orders for our June sale are due May 17th. This will be our final sale until Fall, so stock up! They freeze well.
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**Church
Council
Highlights**

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.)

April Council Meeting – Items Discussed

- Julia, Kim and Pastor Tony will be attending the NEPA Synod meeting.
- Clean Up Day is May 16th. There is a sign-up sheet outside the Fellowship Hall. Please sign up before May 10th. Hoagies and wraps will be provided for lunch.
- Starting June, we will be downstairs through August.
- VBS is June 15, 16 & 17 at Dinkey Memorial from 6-8:30.
- June 21st will be a joint service at Dinkey Memorial. This service will celebrate the end of VBS.
- The next scheduled meeting is: **Monday, May 11, 2026 at 6:30 PM.**

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

Morning Prayer Zoom
Wednesdays at 9 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
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/586370219>
Meeting ID: 586 370 219
Call in: 1-929-205-6099

Prayers for our Congregation Members

Joan Fontana	Rolf Hohenstein	Roger Tyson	Marla Lawson
Kathleen Merluzzi	Marilyn Frey	Lisa Moyer	Jeanette Jennings
Neil Gilbert	Connie Christman	Mike Andrews	Marlin Frey
Betty Frey	Arthur Rudelitsch	Stacy Freeman	Cliff Gledhill
Florence Duffy	Diane Gould	Liz Koch	Allane Kistler
Timothy Gerhard	Brenda Lasky	Bart Cunfer	Donna Horvath

Prayers for Our Friends

Jackie Strauss Everett	Cathy Smith	Ardith Huesz	Geo DeAngelo
Makayla Scott	James Keller	Earl Knappenberger	Adrian Davis
Randy Semmel	Kathy Numemacher	Richard Koch	Vince Rodgers
Lyman Grube	Barbara Kerschner	Joanie Radler	Jen Nielsen
Wesley King	Fern Miller	Dolores Solt	Chris Green
Stewart Henritz	Kathy Steigerwalt	Nichole Hydro	Nicole M. Rowles
Shirley Long	Dan Myers		

Please also pray for

The Stoltzfus family who lost a mother and 6 children in an explosion Sunday, April 19 in Clinton County. The Amish family sold items at the Hometown Farmer's Market.

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	Ferne Berger
Robert Berger	Marie Boyer	Myrtle Creitz	Mary Flyzik
Joan Heintzelman	Scott Heintzelman	Carol Houser	Mary Ann Kollar
Kathryn Leibenguth	Dorothy Reinhart	Ruth Troxell	Betty Willet
Elaine Windbeck	Carolyn Zacharias		


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	Noah Rodgers	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!**


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Confirmation Sunday
May 24, 2026
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ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL
Sunday Mornings
9:30-10:30 AM
 Location: Family Room
 Bring your Bible (if you have one) and join in.
 Led by **Julia Schock**
 Licensed Lay Minister Candidate
 Please see Pastor or Julia with any questions.
If there are any scheduling changes, they will be available on One Call and/or the bulletin.
St John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mahoning
 826 Mahoning Drive West - Lehighton, PA 18235



Donut Sale

Wednesday, June 3
 St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church
 Order by Sunday May 17
 Call/Text/Email Jean Everett 570-778-8668 or myjean@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	
_____ Tues. 3:30-5 PM	_____ Wed. 9-10 AM

Smith Scholarship

We are now accepting applications for the Smith Scholarship Fund. St. John's has been blessed with donations that we can use to assist our members who will be attending college/trade schools. To apply, please write a one-page letter telling us where you plan to attend school, what type of degree you are working towards and how you will use the scholarship money. This is not a one-time scholarship. If you have received scholarship money in the past, you may apply again. A deadline in June will be announced, but you may start sending your information in now. Smith Scholarship Sunday is July 19, 2026. Please address your letter to: St. John's Lutheran Church of Mahoning; Attention Donald Freeman, Council President; 826 Mahoning Drive West; Leighton, PA 18235.

ATTENTION GRADUATES

If you graduated in December 2025 or will be graduating May-August 2026, we would like to know! Please contact Anne S. in the church office by emailing stjohns@ptd.net. Include your name, address, name of high school, trade school, college, etc., where you will/have completed your diploma or degree, the type of degree and the plans that you have for the future. Graduation Recognition Sunday is July 19, 2026.

Trinity Food Pantry 2026

May
June

Cereal
Canned Vegetables

Mother's Day Breakfast

May 10, 2026

9:00 – 10:00 AM

Sanctuary Worship at 11:00 AM

ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL CHURCH OF MAHONING



Please join us on May 16th for Church Spring Cleaning. We will begin at 9AM and lunch will be provided. Stop by and lend a hand!

Have you lost an item? Have you found an item?

We now have a lost and found box located outside of the church office. If you are looking for a lost item - please check there first. If you have found an item - please place it in the box.

Thank you!



VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUNE 15, 16 & 17

6:00 – 8:30 PM

at Dinkey Memorial Church

JOIN US FOR
VBS CLOSING

Joint Service at Dinkey Memorial
Sunday, June 21st at 9 AM

PENTECOST SUNDAY MAY 24TH – WEAR RED

Join us for Pentecost Sunday on May 24th. Please wear red (symbolizing the Holy Spirit and the tongues of fire that appeared on the disciples' heads in Acts 2:3.)



Basket Raffle & Bake Sale



Dinkey Memorial Evangelical
Lutheran Church
1742 Dinkey Road, Ashfield, PA

Friday, May 15th, 2026 - 4pm - 7pm
Saturday, May 16th, 2026 - 9am - 2pm

- A sheet of 25 raffle tickets will be \$5.00 or purchase 5 sheets for \$20.00
- You need not be present to win, ALL winners will be notified
- We will also have the kitchen open for food sales
- Proceeds to benefit church repairs
- 10% of proceeds to be donated to the East Penn Township Fire Company

Spring Time Clothing Drive

We will be holding a Spring Time clothing drive for the months of April & May. There will be a large box in the Narthex for donations. Items should be specific for the Spring & Summer months. Donations will be given to the area homeless and in need. Thank you!



Holy Baptism

We welcome

Roen Williams

into the family of Christ

Son of

Tyler & Haley (Moyer) Williams

Paternal Grandparents

Dale & Deborah (late) Williams

Maternal Grandparents

Terry & Lisa Moyer

FERMENTING OUR FAITH

Join us as we gather to explore faith together in a relaxed format.

Share your questions, ponderings, and even doubts.

May 27th • 6:00 PM

Beacon 443 Diner
35 Blakeslee Blvd Dr E
Lehighton PA 18235

Contact Pr. Tony if you have any questions
@ 570-386-9960 or prdinklc@ptd.net

ALL ARE WELCOME

Congratulations

To our 2026 Spring Bazaar Raffle Winners

- \$350 Gift Card - Ahner's Furniture** - Maria Shirar
- \$100 Cash** - JoAnn Finkbiner
- \$75 Cash** - Pat Digilio
- \$75 Lowe's Gift Card** - Darcy Caruso
- \$50 Cash- Ameriprise Financial** - Mary Virginia Flyzik
- \$50 Tractor Supply Gift Card** - Brittany Pry
- \$50 Cash** - Bruce Steigerwalt
- \$50 Pizza Como Gift Certificate** - Tammy Cooks
- \$50 Walmart Gift Card** - Carolyn Mermon
- \$50 Cash - Fritz Financial** - Regina Fisher
- \$50 Giant Gift Card** - Will Dauthart
- \$50 Cash** - Aubry Schalm
- \$50 Cash** - E. Andrews
- \$50 Giant Gift Card** - Greg Hopstock

JOIN US
Memorial Day Sunday

MAY 24, 2026

9:00 AM
Memorial Day Service
(Outside, Weather Permitting)

11:00 AM
Sanctuary Service
Holy Communion & Confirmation Sunday



May 2026 Daily Lectionary Readings

Friday, May 01, 2026: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; Exodus 3:1-12; Acts 7:1-16;
Saturday, May 02, 2026: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; Jeremiah 26:20-24; John 8:48-59;
Sunday, May 03, 2026: Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16; 1 Peter 2:2-10; John 14:1-14
Monday, May 04, 2026: Psalm 102:1-17; Exodus 13:17-22; Acts 7:17-40;
Tuesday, May 05, 2026: Psalm 102:1-17; Proverbs 3:5-12; Acts 7:44-56;
Wednesday, May 06, 2026: Psalm 102:1-17; Proverbs 3:13-18; John 8:31-38;
Thursday, May 07, 2026: Psalm 66:8-20; Genesis 6:5-22; Acts 27:1-12;
Friday, May 08, 2026: Psalm 66:8-20; Genesis 7:1-24; Acts 27:13-38;
Saturday, May 09, 2026: Psalm 66:8-20; Genesis 8:13-19; John 14:27-29;
Sunday, May 10, 2026: Psalm 66:8-20; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John 14:15-21
Monday, May 11, 2026: Psalm 93; Genesis 9:8-17; Acts 27:39-44;
Tuesday, May 12, 2026: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 5:22-33; 1 Peter 3:8-12;
Wednesday, May 13, 2026: Psalm 93; Deuteronomy 31:1-13; John 16:16-24;
Thursday, May 14, 2026: Psalm 93; Ephesians 1:15-23; Luke 24:44-53
Friday, May 15, 2026: Psalm 93; 2 Kings 2:1-12; Ephesians 2:1-7;
Saturday, May 16, 2026: Psalm 93; 2 Kings 2:13-15; John 8:21-30;
Sunday, May 17, 2026: Psalm 68:1-10, 32-35; 1 Peter 4:12-14; 5:6-11; John 17:1-11
Monday, May 18, 2026: Psalm 99; Leviticus 9:1-11, 22-24; 1 Peter 4:1-6;
Tuesday, May 19, 2026: Psalm 99; Numbers 16:41-50; 1 Peter 4:7-11;
Wednesday, May 20, 2026: Psalm 99; 1 Kings 8:54-65; John 3:31-36;
Thursday, May 21, 2026: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:1-9a; Acts 2:1-11;
Friday, May 22, 2026: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 19:16-25; Romans 8:14-17;
Saturday, May 23, 2026: Psalm 33:12-22; Exodus 20:1-21; Matthew 5:1-12;
Sunday, May 24, 2026: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Acts 2:1-21; John 20:19-23
Monday, May 25, 2026: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Joel 2:18-29; Romans 8:18-24;
Tuesday, May 26, 2026: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Ezekiel 39:7-8, 21-29; Romans 8:26-27;
Wednesday, May 27, 2026: Psalm 104:24-34, 35b; Numbers 11:24-30; John 7:37-39;
Thursday, May 28, 2026: Psalm 8; Job 38:1-11; 2 Timothy 1:8-12a;
Friday, May 29, 2026: Psalm 8; Job 38:12-21; 2 Timothy 1:12b-14;
Saturday, May 30, 2026: Psalm 8; Job 38:22-38; John 14:15-17;
Sunday, May 31, 2026: Psalm 8; 2 Corinthians 13:11-13; Matthew 28:16-20



Trinity Lutheran Church
 175 S. Third Street - Lehighton PA 18235

ALL YOU CAN EAT SPAGHETTI DINNER & BASKET RAFFLE

Saturday, May 2, 2026
 4-7pm

Adults: \$13
 Children 6-12: \$8
 Children 0-5: Free

Dinner includes: choice of sauce (*red, alfredo or garlic & butter*), salmon, homemade meatballs, bread, salad, dessert & beverage

ADVANCED DINNER TICKETS MAY BE PURCHASED BY APRIL 28th AT THE CHURCH OFFICE OR SEE A YOUTH GROUP MEMBER IN THE NARTHEX ON SUNDAY

VASES NEEDED

The Altar Committee is looking for clean, medium sized vases to send Altar flowers home with the sponsors. Here is your chance to clean out that cabinet above the refrigerator that no one can reach!

If you have vases to donate, please see any Altar Committee member or drop off after church on Sunday.

Thank you for your support!

Here are some photos taken from the Pet Donation, Easter Egg Hunt, & Spring Bazaar held on March 27th & 28th. The turnout, donations and profit were a huge success! An amazing job done by the volunteers. **Please keep in mind - these events always need more helpers. Your stewardship is vital to the church and community. Consider getting involved.



Monetary donations for the **Pet Shelters** totaled **\$800**, plus all of the wonderful items collected! Thank you to all who donated and made this a huge success! Items and checks were divided and distributed to the Carbon County Animal Shelter and Carbon County Friends of Animals.

Profit from the **Spring Bazaar** was **\$18,761.34!** Thank you to all who helped and participated during this event!
(A detailed report is displayed on the office door)

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<i>5th Week of Easter</i>						
3 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall Worship with Holy Communion 12:30 PM Confirmation Class (DM)	4 6 PM Grief Support	5 9:30 AM – 1 PM Icing and packaging the donuts 3:30-5 PM Donut Pickup	6 9 AM Prayer w/ Pastor 9-10 AM Donut Pickup	7 9:30 AM Bible Study w/ Pastor Office open 9-2	8 Office Closed	9 9 AM Church Clean Up Day (lunch provided) 9AM-2PM Dinky Memorial Basket Raffle & Bake Sale
<i>6th Week of Easter</i>						
10 <i>Mother's Day</i> 9-10 AM Mother's Day Breakfast in Fellowship Hall 11 AM Sanctuary Worship	11 Newsletter Deadline 10 AM Pastor at Palmer House 6:30 PM Council Meeting	12	13 9 AM Prayer w/ Pastor	14 9:30 AM Bible Study w/ Pastor	15 4-7 PM Dinky Memorial Basket Raffle & Bake Sale	16 9 AM Church Clean Up Day (lunch provided) 9AM-2PM Dinky Memorial Basket Raffle & Bake Sale
<i>7th Week of Easter</i>						
17 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall Worship 12:30 PM Confirmation Rehearsal 1 PM Hall/Kitchen Rental (member) *Donut orders due today*	18 6 PM Grief Support	19	20 9 AM Prayer w/ Pastor	21 9:30 AM Bible Study w/ Pastor 3:30-5 PM Dinky Comm. Cupboard Dist. 6:30 PM Diner & Discussion	22 Office Closed	23
<i>Day of Pentecost</i>						
24 9 AM Memorial Day Service outside (weather permitting) 11 AM Sanctuary Worship with Holy Communion (wear red) Day of Confirmation	25 Memorial Day  Office Closed	26 6 PM Ladies Aid (D) 6 PM Book Club (SJ)	27 9 AM Prayer w/ Pastor 6 PM Fermenting Our Faith (443 Diner)	28 9:30 AM Bible Study w/ Pastor	29 Office Closed	30
<i>The Holy Trinity</i>						
31 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall Worship with Holy Communion						