

JULY 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

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 JULY 2026 at St. John's

July 5 – 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall *with Holy Communion*

July 12 – 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall Worship

July 19 – 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall Worship
Graduation Recognition & Smith Scholarship Sunday

July 26 – 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall Worship with Holy Communion



7/3 Aidan Malloy
7/7 Mason Yaro
7/16 Brittany Pry
7/21 Barry Haupt

7/4 Emma Weaver
7/16 Lori Heimbach
7/20 Julia Schock
7/30 Rebekah McFadden

7/5 Harper Schaeffer
7/17 Thomas Everett
7/21 Rhonda Edgar
7/30 Marshall Walters

(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, July 6th & July 20th at 6 PM.**

Book Club- will meet **Tuesday, July 28th at 6:30 PM** with book *"The Last one at the Wedding"* by Jason Rekulak.

Dinner & Discussion- will meet on **Thursday, July 23rd 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:

- ◆ Thank you to everyone for your help throughout the year! We're taking a break for summer.
- ◆ In the meantime, watch for end of season sales for the basket raffle & also consider donating plants & flowers for our bazaars. Enjoy your summer!



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.)

June Council Meeting – Items Discussed

- Minutes were not available at the time of printing. They will be included in next months newsletter.
- The next scheduled meeting is: **Monday, July 13, 2026 at 6:30 PM.**

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

**Congratulations again to Kiersten Diehl & Tristan Balliet on your Confirmation Day on May 24, 2026.
Welcome and God Bless you!**



Prayers for our Congregation Members

To the Family of Marilyn Frey

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

Prayers for Our Friends

Richard Elinich	Adam Elinich	Orpha Nothstein	Kyle Strohl
Cathy Smith	Ardith Huesz	Geo DeAngelo	Makayla Scott
James Keller	Nichole Hydro	Joanie Radler	Jen Nielsen
Jackie Strauss Everet	Adrian Davis	Kathy Steigerwalt	Randy Semmel
Richard Koch	Nicole Rowles	Lyman Grube	Barbara Kerschner
Wesley King	Fern Miller	Dolores Solt	Chris Green
Stewart Henritz	Shirley Long	Dan Myers	



Please also pray for

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


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!

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




Donut Sale

Wednesday, September 2

Please order by Sunday, August 16

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



Name _____ Phone # _____

_____ (1) Persian X \$2.50	\$ _____
_____ (2) Iced Long Johns X \$5.00	\$ _____
_____ (2) Coconut Long Johns X \$5.50	\$ _____
_____ (6) Cider Donuts X \$8.00	\$ _____
	Total \$ _____

Pick up

_____ Tues 9/1 3:30-5 PM _____ Wed 9/2 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; Lehighton, PA 18235.

ATTENTION GRADUATES

Members, if you graduated in Winter of 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

July Pasta

Graduate Recognition & Smith Scholarships

Sunday, July 19th • 11 AM
During our Fellowship
Hall Worship Service

• Members, please see the posts in the bulletins and newsletters to send us the required information before the end of June. If you have questions, call the office at 570-386-9960.

Family Promise of Carbon County is selling cash raffle tickets:

1st prize - \$1,000 2nd prize - @250
3rd prize - \$100

Donation is \$5.00 Drawing is Sept. 5th
Tickets are available in the office. Please see Anne S. during office hours or a member of Council after church.

FERMENTING OUR FAITH

Join us as we gather to explore faith together in a relaxed format.
Share your questions, ponderings, and even doubts.

July 8th • 6:00 PM

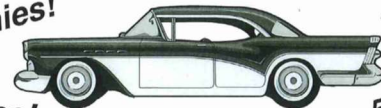
Beacon 443 Diner
35 Blakeslee Blvd Dr E
Lehighton PA 18235

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

ALL ARE WELCOME

Third Annual Car & Motorcycle Show

Trophies! Food!
Raffles! 50/50s!



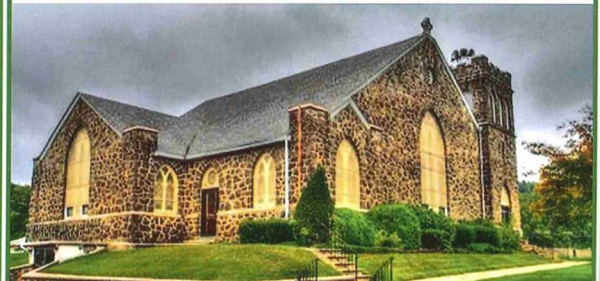
at
Dinkey Memorial Church

in Ashfield, PA

September 12th, 2026

(Rain Date September 19th)

9:00am - 3:00pm



Dash plaques for first 50 vehicles. Donations Accepted.

St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mahoning
826 Mahoning Dr W • Lehighton PA
570-386-9960

Annual Community Church Picnic

Sunday, August 16th | 12-3 PM

- Food & Beverages
- Entertainment
- Bingo with Prizes
- Gift Certificate Raffle Benefiting Family Promise

• There will be an 11 AM Joint Sanctuary Worship Service before the picnic. Please join us!!




PICNIC

BINGO PRIZES NEEDED

Our Annual Community Church Picnic will be Sunday, August 16, 2026, after our 11 AM Joint Sanctuary Service, from 12 noon - 3 PM.

- We will be playing Bingo at the picnic and are asking for Bingo Prizes.
- Bingo Prizes can be placed in the Sunday School Nursery or drop off in the office during regular office hours.




GIFT CARDS NEEDED

Our Annual Community Church Picnic will be Sunday, August 16, 2026, after our 11 AM Joint Sanctuary Service, from 12 noon - 3 PM.

- We are accepting donations of gift cards, valued at \$25, for our gift card raffle held during the church picnic.
- The proceeds from the sale of the raffle tickets will go to Family Promise this year.

Gift cards can be given to either Geoff Ebbert, Cheryl Kistler or dropped off in the office during regular hours. Thank you!






ST. JOHN'S EVANGELICAL LUTHERAN CHURCH OF MAHONING
826 MAHONING DRIVE WEST ~ LEHIGHTON, PA 18235

FALL BAZAAR

- Basket Raffle • Bake Sale • Candy
- Fall Decorations • Raffle Tickets • Plants
- Homemade Food • Filling

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 3 | 5 - 7:30 PM
SATURDAY, OCTOBER 4 | 9 AM - 2 PM

20% of the profits will go to: SLINGSHOT ESPORTS

Seeking Fall Raffle Ticket Prizes!

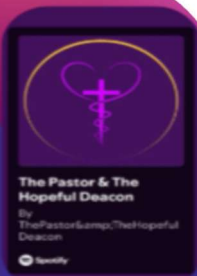
The Fundraising Committee is looking for raffle ticket prizes valued at \$50 or more!

Questions?
Contact Anne Yenser @ 570-390-9108



Thank you for your generosity!

The Pastor & The Hopeful Deacon



The Pastor & The Hopeful Deacon
By ThePastor&TheHopefulDeacon

The Pastor & The Hopeful Deacon

Pastor Tony Pagotto & Kimberly Gerhard

Spotify | YouTube

Technical Advising by Dakota Trach

Find the podcast on Spotify & YouTube
Search for The Pastor & The Hopeful Deacon

The Pastor & The Hopeful Deacon
ThePastor&TheHopefulDeacon

Harvest Home Mum Sale

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

We are currently taking orders for Harvest Home Mums to be displayed during the worship service on Sunday, September 20, 2026. Orders can be turned into Anne S. in the office or handed to Cheryl Kistler. Plants must be prepaid with the order. Mums are \$9 each. Please make checks payable to: St. John's Church of Mahoning. Plants may be removed after the worship service has concluded.

Orders and money due: **September 1, 2026.**

White	Yellow	Bronze	Purple	Orange	In Memory Of	In Honor Of	To the Glory of God	List the name(s) that your mum is in Honor or Memory of:	Sponsored by:
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From the Fundraising Committee:

Profit from the recent **Donut Sale** was **\$1,705.44**. A detailed report will be displayed on the door outside the church office.

A Heartfelt Thank You Lori & Robbie Hawk

We are so grateful for the many years you dedicated to organizing and arranging our Harvest Home Mum, Easter Flower, and Christmas Eve Poinsettia & Cactus sponsorships.

With deep appreciation,
Your Church Family

Going forward, Cheryl Kistler (and volunteers) will be handling the Harvest Home Mum orders and more information will be available for Christmas Eve sponsorships in advance. Thank you!

LET'S CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250TH
4th
of July
BLOCK PARTY
COME CELEBRATE AMERICA WITH
FAMILY, FOOD, MUSIC & FUN!
JULY 4, 2026
2:00 PM TO 9:00 PM
1 CONSTITUTION AVENUE
LEHIGHTON

LEHIGHTON
BAND
COMMUNITY CHORUS
JULY 2ND
8 PM
LEHIGHTON PARK AMPHITHEATER
CELEBRATING
USA
250TH
A CONCERT OF
PATRIOTIC MUSIC
HONORING OUR PAST • CELEBRATING OUR FREEDOM •
INSPIRING OUR FUTURE

Praise
in the
Valley
A FREE COMMUNITY WORSHIP EVENT
AUGUST 7, 2026 | 5-9 PM
Yenser's Tree Farm
Bring your chairs & enjoy an evening during
Sunflower Festival
All festival activities open
Live Music By:
BWC Lehighton Worship
Elevate Youth Praise Band
Jennifer K Eckhart & Stained Glass Road
Lighthouse Worship

Daily Lectionary Readings for July 2026

Wednesday, July 01, 2026: Psalm 47; Isaiah 51:1-3; Matthew 11:20-24;
Thursday, July 02, 2026: Psalm 45:10-17; Genesis 25:19-27; Romans 7:1-6;
Friday, July 03, 2026: Psalm 45:10-17; Genesis 27:1-17; Romans 7:7-20;
Saturday, July 04, 2026: Psalm 45:10-17; Genesis 27:18-29; Luke 10:21-24;
Sunday, July 05, 2026: Psalm 145:8-14; Romans 7:15-25a; Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30
Monday, July 06, 2026: Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Genesis 27:30-46; Romans 1:18-25;
Tuesday, July 07, 2026: Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Genesis 29:1-14; Romans 3:1-8;
Wednesday, July 08, 2026: Song of Solomon 2:8-13; Genesis 29:31-35; John 13:1-17
Thursday, July 09, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; Exodus 3:1-6; Romans 2:12-16;
Friday, July 10, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; Deuteronomy 32:1-10; Romans 15:14-21;
Saturday, July 11, 2026: Psalm 119:105-112; Isaiah 2:1-4; John 12:44-50;
Sunday, July 12, 2026: Psalm 65:(1-8), 9-13; Romans 8:1-11; Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23
Monday, July 13, 2026: Psalm 142; Micah 1:1-5; 1 Thessalonians 4:1-8;
Tuesday, July 14, 2026: Psalm 142; Jeremiah 49:7-11; Ephesians 4:17-5:2;
Wednesday, July 15, 2026: Psalm 142; Obadiah 15-21; Matthew 13:10-17;
Thursday, July 16, 2026: Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Isaiah 44:1-5; Hebrews 2:1-9;
Friday, July 17, 2026: Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Ezekiel 39:21-29; Hebrews 6:13-20;
Saturday, July 18, 2026: Psalm 139:1-12, 23-24; Exodus 14:9-25; Matthew 7:15-20;
Sunday, July 19, 2026: Psalm 86:11-17; Romans 8:12-25; Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43
Monday, July 20, 2026: Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 32:3-21; Revelation 14:12-20;
Tuesday, July 21, 2026: Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 33:1-17; Galatians 4:21-5:1;
Wednesday, July 22, 2026: Psalm 139:13-18; Genesis 35:16-29; Matthew 12:15-21;
Thursday, July 23, 2026: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:1-8; 1 Corinthians 4:14-20;
Friday, July 24, 2026: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:9-14; Acts 7:44-53;
Saturday, July 25, 2026: Psalm 105:1-11, 45b; Genesis 29:31-30:24; Matthew 12:38-42;
Sunday, July 26, 2026: Psalm 119:129-136; Romans 8:26-39; Matthew 13:31-33, 44-52
Monday, July 27, 2026: Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 30:25-36; James 3:13-18;
Tuesday, July 28, 2026: Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 30:37-43; Ephesians 6:10-18;
Wednesday, July 29, 2026: Psalm 65:8-13; Genesis 46:2-47:12; Mark 4:30-34;
Thursday, July 30, 2026: Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 14:1-2; Philippians 4:10-15;
Friday, July 31, 2026: Psalm 17:1-7, 15; Isaiah 41:8-10; Romans 9:6-13;



MAHONING TOWNSHIP
LIONS CLUB



ICE CREAM SOCIAL



Wednesday, July 8, 2026
from
4:30 - 7:30 PM

at
Chapel Grove Pavilion
at Normal Square
(Route 443 & Fritz Valley Road)

Variety of Sundaes, Waffles & Ice Cream,
Hand-dipped Vanilla & Chocolate Ice Cream

Also available:
Hot Dogs, Hamburger Bar-B-Q,
Chicken Bar-B-Q, Bean Soup, Potato Salad,
Water, Soda, Ice Tea



Come join us for a mid-week relaxing time!

LEHIGHTON AMPHITHEATER - 1 CONSTITUTION AVENUE, LEHIGHTON
PRESENTED BY: LEHIGHTON PARKS & RECREATION

MUSIC 2026

06/06 RICHIE & THE HIGH STREET ROCKERS 6 PM TO 9 PM

06/20 HATTER 6 PM TO 9 PM

07/04 THE BEATEN PATH 6 PM TO 9 PM

07/18 BAD INFLUENCE 6 PM TO 9 PM

08/01 STEEL CREEK 6 PM TO 9 PM

08/15 COMMUNITY SHOWCASE 6 PM TO 9 PM

08/29 7TH & MAHONING 6 PM TO 9 PM

09/26 THE LARGE FLOWER HEADS 7 PM TO 9 PM

Stars, Stripes & Good Vibes

AMERICA'S
Potluck
JULY 5, 2026

CELEBRATE AMERICA'S 250 BIRTHDAY WITH
FOOD AND FRIENDS

Bring your favorite side dish
Hot dogs, drinks & paper products will be provided

Everyone's welcome — family, friends, and
neighbors!

Yenser's Tree Farm
1910 Mahoning Drive East
12:30 (1:00 lunch)

250 PA
CARBON COUNTY

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

CALLING ALL VOLUNTEERS!
WE NEED YOUR HELP!

Lehighton Borough Parks and Recreation is
looking for dedicated individuals to join us
in our mission to make a positive impact
in our community.

If you have a passion for outdoor places
and spaces and want to make a
meaningful difference in your community,
we want to hear from you!

Our meetings are the
third Monday of the
month at 6:30 PM at
Borough Hall
(1 Constitution Avenue,
Lehighton).

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
						
5 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall with Holy Communion	6 6 PM Grief Share Support	7	8 9 AM Prayer with Pastor 6 PM Fermenting Our Faith (443 Diner)	9 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor	10 Independence Day Observed Office Closed	11 
12 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall 12:30-9 PM Hall/Kitchen/Pavilion Rental (member reunion)	13 10 AM Pastor at Palmer House Hymn Sing	14 Newsletter Deadline	15 9 AM Prayer with Pastor	16 Office Open 9AM-2PM 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor 3:30-5 PM Dinkey Comm. Cupboard Dist.	17 Office Closed	18
19 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall Graduation Recognition & Smith Scholarship Sunday	20 Pastor Off 6:30 PM Council Meeting	21 Pastor Off	22 Pastor Off	23 Pastor Off 6:30 PM Dinner & Discussion	24 Pastor Off	25
26 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall with Holy Communion 1AM-6PM Hall/Kitchen/Pavilion Rental (member - birthday party)	27 6 PM Grief Share Support	28 6 PM Ladies Aid 6:30 PM Book Club	29 9 AM Prayer with Pastor	30 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor	31	

***Pastor Tony is off July 20th-24th**

***Office is closed July 3rd (Holiday observed). Office will be open July 16th & closed July 17th.**