

NOVEMBER 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
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 November 2026 at St. John's

Nov. 1 - 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall Worship *with Holy Communion*
All Saints Sunday

Nov. 8 - 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Sanctuary Worship

Nov. 15- 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall - **Congregational Meeting**

Nov. 22- 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Sanctuary Worship *with Holy Communion*
Christ the King Sunday – Hanging of the Greens
Christmas Decorating around the church

Nov. 29 – 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School **11 AM** Fellowship Hall – **Trees for Troops Collection Day**



11/1 Jace DeBlasio

11/3 Amy Neeb

11/6 Ruth Troxell

11/10 Lana Balliet

11/14 Michelle Troutman

11/19 Evelyn Pry

11/19 Karen Flexer

11/20 Sylvia Snyder

11/20 Larry Snyder

11/21 Mary Ann Eidem

11/22 Andrew Yenser

11/24 Marvin Mertz

11/29 Theodore Ahner

11/29 Jacob Merluzzi

(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, Nov. 2nd & Monday, Nov. 16th at 6:00 PM.**

Book Club- will meet for Nov./Dec. on **Tuesday, Dec. 1st at 6:30 PM** with book *"The Christmas Ring"* by **Karen Kingsbury.**

Dinner & Discussion- will meet on **Thursday, Nov. 19th at 6:30 PM.** Please contact **Cheryl Kistler at 610-533-5723** with any questions.

Fermenting Our Faith- will meet on **Wednesday, Nov. 11th at 6:00 PM.** This will be at the **443 Diner.**

Fundraising Committee- will not meet again until **Tuesday, Feb. 16, 2027 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 for making our annual Fall Bazaar a success! It's fun spending time together & welcoming our community to St John's. The 3 organizations we supported are grateful we thought of them.
 - ♦ We will be baking, icing, & packaging the donuts for our final sale of this year on **Wednesday, Nov 4th.** If you're able to help, stop by anytime between **9 AM & 1 PM.**
- Have a blessed Thanksgiving!



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.)

October Council Meeting – Items Discussed

- Thanksgiving Eve service will be at St John's at 7 PM. Pastor Josh Nemeth, from St Peter's West Penn, will preach.
- Hanging of the Greens and church Christmas decorating will take place on Nov. 22nd.
- The heating and cooling system was switched over to heat for the winter.

- The next scheduled meeting is: **Monday, November 9, 2026 at 6:30 PM.**

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

Emma Weaver	Brenda Lasky	Matt Fisher	Marla Lawson
Jeanette Jennings	Liz Koch	Florence Duffy	Kathleen Merluzzi
Lisa Moyer	Donna Horvath	Arthur Rudelitsch	Neil Gilbert
Connie Christman	Mike Andrews	Stacy Freeman	Bart Cunfer

Prayers for Our Friends

Family of Dolores Solt	Family of Rolf Hohenstein
Ben Serfass	Joan Fontana
Peggy Drummond	Richard Elinich
Trace Gonet	Kyle Strohl
James Keller	Joanie Radler
Adrian Davis	Kathy Steigerwalt
Fern Miller	Wesley King
Chris Green	Shirley Long



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	Grant Schaeffer	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!

VETERANS DAY PRAYER

Heavenly Father,
today we honor our
veterans who have
served with
courage and
dedication. Thank
You for their
sacrifices to protect
our freedom. May
You bless them
with peace,
strength, and
comfort. Surround
them with love and
gratitude today and
always. Amen.



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.

St. John's Congregational Meeting

A congregational meeting will be held on **Sunday, November 15, 2026**, following morning worship in fellowship hall. The purpose of this meeting is to pass the 2027 budget and elect council members. Please join us for this meeting and share in the conversation.

Trinity Food Pantry 2026

November Macaroni & Cheese

MIDWEEK

ADVENT WORSHIP & SOUP SUPPER

WEDNESDAYS 6:00PM

Join us each Wednesday in Advent for a Soup Supper and Worship Service:

December 2nd, 9th, 16th & 23rd

St. John's Lutheran Church
826 Mahoning Drive West
Lehighton, PA 18235

WINTER COAT COLLECTION




Mahoning Valley DONATION DROP OFF

Starting October 1st
We will have a drop off area at our station for homeless people in our area.

We will be accepting:

- WINTER SUPPLIES: Blankets, coats, hats, gloves, scarves, socks, etc.
- CANNED FOOD: Non-perishable food items.
- DRINKS: Water, juice, sports drinks, etc.
- MEDICAL SUPPLIES: Band-aids, OTC meds, first aid items, health supplies, etc.

PICK UP DONATION ONLY
THIS WILL BE A PICK UP DONATION ONLY

Your donations help keep our community warm, fed and cared for.

Look for the collection boxes in the Sanctuary Narthex and foyer to the Social Hall

Thank you in advance for your donation to this mission outreach project. Questions, please contact Cheryl Kistler @ 610-533-5723.

2026 Fall Bazaar

Profit: \$14,226.05

Amazing job by all of the kitchen staff, bakers, organizers, volunteers, donors, and attendees.

Thank You FOR MAKING OUR BAZAAR A SUCCESS!



Happiest of birthdays to Myrtle Creitz who turned 98 years young on October 11th.



During the Fall Bazaar, there was a collection for the Bare Necessities Pantry and Lehighton Trinity Food Pantry. Here are the items collected during the bazaar. \$200 was also raised and split between both organizations. Thank you to all who organized and manned the collections and thank you to all those who donated to this community outreach event!

FERMENTING OUR FAITH

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

Oct. 14th & Nov. 11th

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

Daily Lectionary Readings for November 2026

Sunday, November 01, 2026: Psalm 34:1-10, 22; 1 John 3:1-3; Matthew 5:1-12
Monday, November 02, 2026: Psalm 128; Joshua 4:1-24; 1 Thessalonians 2:13-20;
Tuesday, November 03, 2026: Psalm 128; Joshua 6:1-16, 20; Acts 13:1-12;
Wednesday, November 04, 2026: Psalm 128; Joshua 10:12-14; Matthew 15:1-9;
Thursday, November 05, 2026: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 5:10-12; Revelation 8:6-9:12;
Friday, November 06, 2026: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 8:30-35; Revelation 9:13-21;
Saturday, November 07, 2026: Psalm 78:1-7; Joshua 20:1-9; Matthew 24:1-14;
Sunday, November 08, 2026: Psalm 70; 1 Thessalonians 4:13-18; Matthew 25:1-13
Monday, November 09, 2026: Psalm 78; Joshua 24:25-33; 1 Corinthians 14:20-25;
Tuesday, November 10, 2026: Psalm 78; Nehemiah 8:1-12; 1 Thessalonians 3:6-13;
Wednesday, November 11, 2026: Psalm 78; Jeremiah 31:31-34; Matthew 24:29-35;
Thursday, November 12, 2026: Psalm 123; Judges 2:6-15; Revelation 16:1-7;
Friday, November 13, 2026: Psalm 123; Judges 2:16-23; Revelation 16:8-21;
Saturday, November 14, 2026: Psalm 123; Judges 5:1-12; Matthew 12:43-45;
Sunday, November 15, 2026: Psalm 123; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-11; Matthew 25:14-30
Monday, November 16, 2026: Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Judges 4:8-24; Romans 2:1-11;
Tuesday, November 17, 2026: Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Exodus 2:1-10; 1 Thessalonians 5:12-18;
Wednesday, November 18, 2026: Psalm 83:1-4, 9-10, 17-18; Esther 7:1-10; Matthew 24:45-51;
Thursday, November 19, 2026: Psalm 100; Genesis 48:15-22; Revelation 14:1-11;
Friday, November 20, 2026: Psalm 100; Isaiah 40:1-11; Revelation 22:1-9;
Saturday, November 21, 2026: Psalm 100; Ezekiel 34:25-31; Matthew 12:46-50;
Sunday, November 22, 2026: Psalm 100; Ephesians 1:15-23; Matthew 25:31-46
Monday, November 23, 2026: Psalm 28; Numbers 27:15-23; 2 Timothy 2:8-13;
Tuesday, November 24, 2026: Psalm 28; Zechariah 11:4-17; Revelation 19:1-9;
Wednesday, November 25, 2026: Psalm 28; Jeremiah 31:10-14; John 5:19-40;
Thursday, November 26, 2026: Psalm 65; 2 Corinthians 9:6-15; Luke 17:11-19
Friday, November 27, 2026: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Zechariah 13:1-9; Revelation 14:6-13;
Saturday, November 28, 2026: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; Micah 2:1-13; Matthew 24:15-31;
Sunday, November 29, 2026: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 1:3-9; Mark 13:24-37
Monday, November 30, 2026: Psalm 79; Micah 4:1-5; Revelation 15:1-8;

We will be decorating the Sanctuary and Fellowship Hall **Nov. 22nd**, immediately following worship. Get in that festive mood and help us beautify our church for the Advent/Christmas season!!

*Got Free Turkeys?
Share the Joy!*



Hey St. John's

It is that time of year when stores are giving points for free turkeys.

If you just don't need it or wondering what to do with it, we have an answer!! The fundraising team is looking for turkeys and turkey breasts (to make BBQ) for the Spring Bazaar. Please keep this in mind over the holidays.

Thank you!



**ST. PETER'S
PORK AND SAUERKRAUT
SUPPER AND BAKE SALE
SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 14TH
3:00 ~ 7:00 PM**

EAT-IN OR TAKE-OUT

SPONSORED BY THE SUNDAY SCHOOL

ADULTS (13+): \$15.00 CHILDREN (6-12): \$6.00

CHILDREN (5 & YOUNGER): FREE

We will also be holding a basket raffle. Anyone interested in donating a basket, please contact Susan Hunsicker at 570-778-9872.

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

Poinsettia / Christmas Cactus Sale

Poinsettia \$10.00 – Available in Red, White & Pink / Christmas Cactus \$15 – Growers Choice

We are taking orders for Poinsettia's & Christmas Cactus's to be displayed during the worship service on Christmas Eve, December 24, 2026. Orders can be turned into Robbie or Lori Hawk or dropped off at the Church Office in the mail slot. Plants must be prepaid with the order. Please make checks payable to: St. John's Evangelical Lutheran Church of Mahoning. Plants may be removed after the Worship Service. **Order deadline will be November 22, 2026. Late orders will NOT be accepted.**

Red	White	Pink	Christmas Cactus	In Memory of	In Honor of	To The Glory of God	List the name or names that your plant is in Honor of or in Memory of:	Sponsored By:

Name: _____

Phone Number: _____

Number of Plants Ordered: _____

Total Money Collected: _____

**Joint
Thanksgiving Eve
Worship**

**St John's Church of Mahoning
7:00 PM on November 25, 2026**

Dylan and Gavin's Rainbow is pleased to announce that we will once again host a special **2026 Children's Remembrance Candle Lighting and Dinner**. This will once again be held in Luther Hall, Trinity Lutheran Church, 3rd and Iron Streets in Lehighnton. Doors will open at 2:30 and dinner will be served at 3:00 p.m. The candle lighting ceremony and slideshow will follow immediately after dinner.

We will open up the registration SOON, and will share that information with you at that time!

Please mark your own calendars, and plan to join us on Sunday, December 13 and/or **share this information with any and all parents, grandparents and siblings** who have experienced the death of a child or children. We encourage you to invite supportive family members and friends to join us as well.

If we already have a photo submitted from a previous year, we can use that same one again for this year...OR if you'd like to submit a new one in its place, you are welcome to do that as well.

And, as always, please don't hesitate to contact us with any other questions.

Hope to see you on Sunday, December 13!

Lora and Dave Krum

Dylan and Gavin's parents

Co-presidents of Dylan and Gavin's Rainbow Ministry

"May their love and memory live on"

www.dylanandgavinsrainbow.com



**Bo Tkach
Foundation**

turkey trot



Thanksgiving Day
November 26, 2026

Helping to improve the future of our Youth

WHO:

Runners (and walkers) of all ages. Gather your family, friends, and co-workers.

WHERE:

Palmerton Park – Starts at 3rd Street and Delaware Avenue, Palmerton, Trot proceeds through the scenic town of Palmerton.

RACE STARTS PROMPTLY AT 9:00 a.m.

EARLY REGISTRATION:

Early **DISCOUNTED ONLINE ONLY** registration fee for adults is \$25 and \$15 for youth (12 and under).

FULL PRICE PAPER registration for adults is \$35 and \$25 for youth.

Early registration closes at midnight on October 25, 2026.

After October 25th, registration will be \$35 for adults and \$25 for youth, t-shirt is not guaranteed.

ONLINE REGISTRATION:

<https://www.pretzelcitysports.com/online-registration/>

PACKET PICK-UP

The Jim Christman Team Office – Keller Williams Real Estate, [362 Delaware Avenue, Palmerton](https://www.kellerwilliams.com/362-Delaware-Avenue-Palmerton).

- Saturday, November 21st – 9:00AM-Noon
- Monday, November 23rd & Tuesday, November 24th – 9:00AM-6:00PM
- Thanksgiving in the Park from 8:00 – 8:45 AM

AWARDS:

Top male and female overall, top 3 males and females in each age category:

13 and under, 14-18, 19-29, 30-39, 40-49, 50-59, 60-69, 70+ (awards for runners only)

PLEASE BRING A NON-PERISHABLE FOOD ITEM FOR THE LOCAL FOOD PANTRY (no glass)

DINKEY MEMORIAL CHURCH ELECTION DAY SPAGHETTI DINNER

November 3, 2026

4pm-7pm

Adults \$12.00

Children ages 5-12

years old \$8.00

Children 4 & under free.

10% of proceeds
goes to Care Net

DINNER INCLUDES

- Endless pasta with your choice of sauce
- Salad with your choice of dressing
- Rolls with butter
- Homemade desserts with beverages



Rummage is Returning in 2027!

Thanks to the interest of Stacy Freeman and Julia Schock, we will be planning a rummage sale in 2027!

*We will start taking donations in **October 2026**.

*Donations can be placed in the back half of the nursery room.

*A gentle reminder that we **will not accept** clothing, electronics, large appliances or furniture.

*What we **will accept** are dishes, cookware, and other household items, small kitchen appliances, holiday decorations, linens, books, puzzles, toys, gardening items, etc.

If you have any questions please reach out to Stacy, Julia or Cheryl.

We look forward to turning your discarded items into someone else's treasure!

COLLECTING
DONATIONS FOR
TREES FOR TROOPS

COOKIES & COFFEE
AFTER CHURCH

PLEASE JOIN US ON
SUNDAY, NOV 29TH



“Members of St. John’s and Dinkey enjoyed the annual Sunday School Rally Day kick off on September 24th. Many thanks to Yenser’s tree farm for hosting us! We enjoyed a picnic supper, hay ride and tackled the corn maze.” – Rebekah McFadden



2026 Free Thanksgiving Meal

Pre-registration Required

Zion Stone West Penn, St Peter's West Penn, St John's Mahoning,
Dinkey Memorial Ashfield, St Matthew's Lutheran Church Weissport,
Trinity Lutheran Church Tamaqua, and Ben Salem UCC Andreas

are sponsoring a free Thanksgiving meal on

Saturday, November 21, 2026 · This will be a drive-thru pick up at Ben Salem UCC
at 1965 Church Hill Road · Lehighnton, PA 18235 · from 1pm to 3pm.

Registration

You must pre-register to receive your free meal by calling Nancy Meiser at
570-205-9267, Monday - Friday, 9am-4pm.

Registration begins November 2nd - November 16th.

If Nancy is unable to answer your call, please leave your name,
phone number and number of meals you are requesting.

Limited number of meals available.

The Lehighnton Area Leo's Club

-BRUNCH & BASKET RAFFLE-



11/21/26

THE LEHIGHTON BOYS AND GIRLS BAND HALL

197 N 6TH ST, LEHIGHTON, PA

meals are \$12!

2 SEATINGS: 10AM AND 12PM

FOR MORE INFORMATION OR TO

RESERVE A SEAT, PLEASE

CONTACT LIZ AT 610-462-0876

-MENU-

PANCAKES

PIEROGI CASSEROLE

BREAKFAST SAUSAGE

FRUIT CUP

COFFEE

TEA

WATER

**HELP
REPLACE**
the gifts for
children in need.



LHH Little Helping Hands Daycare

was the Lehighnton's **Toys for Tots** collection location. They
suffered a fire on Oct 29th and all the toys were destroyed.

Area events and local businesses are coming together to
replace the gifts for children in need.



Donate **NEW**, unwrapped toys
for children ages 0-16.

Drop off donations in the
designated box in the church
near Fellowship Hall.

Deadline:
December 4th

Questions or monetary donations:
Call Anne Scott at the church office, 570-386-9960,
or on her cell, 484-767-0825.

Thank you for your help!!

JOIN US FOR CHRISTMAS EVE SERVICES
AND CELEBRATE WITH US THIS YEAR!

3 PM - St. John's

5 PM - Dinkey Memorial

10 PM - Dinkey Memorial

11 PM - St. John's (Kimberly Gerhard, LLM)

Congratulations

To our 2026 Spring Bazaar Raffle Winners

\$350 Gift Card - Ahner's Furniture - Matt Fisher

\$100 Cash - Barbara Ruzika

\$75 Cash - Andrew Ebbert

\$75 Lowe's Gift Card - Randy Flexer

\$50 Cash - Ameriprise Financial - Tina Getz

\$50 Tractor Supply Gift Card - Donna Raby

\$50 Cash - Alex Hawk

\$50 Pizza Como Gift Certificate - Linda Rex

\$50 Walmart Gift Card - Elaine Windbeck

\$50 Cash - Fritz Financial - Andy Yenser

\$50 Giant Gift Card - Mary Virginia Flyzik

\$50 Cash - Carl Miller

\$50 Giant Gift Card - Joe Lawson

\$50 Cash - Marlene Neff

Tickets Sponsored by
Hartman Funeral Home
1791 West Penn Pike
New Ringgold PA 17960

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
1 All Saints Sunday <i>Daylight Savings</i>  9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall Worship w/ Holy Communion	2 6 PM Grief Support	3 Election Day  4-7 PM Spagnetti Dinner @ Dinkey Memorial	4 9 AM Prayer with Pastor 9-? Making Donuts 3:30-5 PM Donut Pick up	5 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor 9-10 AM - Donut Pick up	6	7 Hall/Kitchen Rental - Leighton Bible Church Private Fall Fest
8 Pentecost 24 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Sanctuary Worship	9 10 AM Pastor Tony at the Palmer House 6:30 PM Council Meeting	10 December Newsletter Deadline	11 Veteran's Day  9 AM Prayer with Pastor 6-8 PM Fermenting Our Faith (443 Diner)	12 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor	13	
15 Pentecost 25 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall followed by Congregational Meeting	16	17	18 9 AM Prayer with Pastor	19 9:30 AM Bible Study with Pastor 3:30-5 PM Dinkey Comm. Food Dist. 6:30 PM Dinner & Discussion	20	21
22 Christ the King <i>Hanging of the Greens</i> 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Sanctuary Worship w/ Holy Communion *Christmas Decorating after worship	23 6 PM Grief Support	24	25 9 AM Prayer with Pastor	26  Thanksgiving Day	27	28
29 Advent 1 9:30 AM Adult Sunday School 11 AM Fellowship Hall Worship *Trees for Troops Collection Sunday with cookies & coffee	30	6 PM Ladies Aid	7 PM Thanksgiving Eve Worship at St. John's			