

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN  
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR APRIL 5, 2021

Pastor Jay opened the meeting with a prayer. **Those council members in attendance were** Pastor Jay, Bob Decusky, Jerid Lindenmuth, Gail Becker, Janice Wasser, Laura Faust, Debbie Shoup, Clarissa Geary, Bill Rudolph, Wayne Mensinger, Joan Mensinger. Also in attendance were Marion Chupasco, Judy Rudolph, and Gary Schell. The minutes of the March meetings were read and approved. Treasurer's reports were given, reviewed, approved and filed for audit.

**Pastor's report:** 2 funerals, 2 catechism, 4 prayer chats, 20 private communions, Library Board and Finance committee meeting, posted a devotional for each day in Lent on FaceBook. There were 55 to 60 online views for Sunday services, 40 midweek views, 51 for Palm Sunday, 45 Maundy Thursday, 47 Good Friday, and 60 Easter Sunday. There were also 4 midweek Lenten/Bible studies.

**Office report** was reviewed. Ascension Day Service is scheduled for May 13 and there will be a cleanup scheduled for the Old White Church sometime beforehand.

**Committee meetings:**

**Town Social:** As of now the social will go on as normal in August. Discussed spacing the tables a little farther apart.

**Building committee:** Maps of the water runoff are available for committee members to review.

**Property committee:** Lawn mowers to be serviced.

**Old Business:** The heat will be turned off for the spring and summer. It was decided to wait a month or 2 of in person services before we schedule the remainder of the annual meeting. 4 or 5 youth will be attending Bear Creek Camp this summer. Gary reported that the PPP reports have been accepted and the loan has been forgiven. Ashley Teter's candidacy forms have been completed and sent to Synod.

**New Business:** Gary received a thank you letter for a donation given to Lutheran Seminary.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.  
Joan Mensinger, secretary

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE  
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR APRIL 6, 2021

**Members in Attendance:** Pastor Jay, Bob Fritz, Dotsy Fritz, Marie Clark, Judi Kline, Millie Krupilis, Mario Curreli, Marion Chupasco Devotions were given by Pastor Jay.

**Secretary's Report:** Was approved as read.

**Treasurers' Reports:** Available for review and sent to audit.

**Pastor's Report:** Private communions 20, funerals 2, zoom prayer chats 4, catechism classes 2, attended Ringtown library board and finance committee meeting. During Lent Pastor Jay wrote daily devotionals and posted them to the website page and Facebook. Palm Sunday 28 people gathered for worship. Maundy Thursday had 45 views. Good Friday had 47 views. Easter Sunday 41 gathered for worship, and there were 43 views. The midweek Lenten services average was in the 30's. Pastor Jay focused on suggestions from the congregation from Bible stories and a topic of his choice.

**Office Report:** Available for review. There are baptisms scheduled. Please inform Marion of anyone who is graduating.

**Old Business:** The Mexican restaurant (La Casita De Familia) coupons are still available. The other fundraisers are a work in progress. The church hoagie sale is scheduled for 9/16/2021.

**New Business:** The next council meeting will be held via conference call.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.  
Marie Clark, Secretary



**ANNUAL COMMUNITY  
ASCENSION DAY SERVICE  
THR, MAY 13, 10am**

...at the Old White Church Guest speaker will be Rev. Michael Klahr, Fountain & Friedens UCC, Hegins. Due to Covid restrictions, there will be no fellowship meal after. Masks and social distancing required.  
**Old White Church cleaning - May 6, 10am.**

**SOCIAL MINISTRY  
“PERSONAL CARE KIT” PROJECT**

The Social Ministry Committee will continue our project of assembling Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief during the Lenten and Easter seasons. In these times when people are fleeing their homes for reasons of personal safety, famine, natural disasters, etc, Personal Care items are rarely taken with them. These kits provide much needed self-care items and the chance to regain dignity.

The following items can be dropped off at the church you can make a monetary donation for the purchase of these items. Please designate for care kits.

- 1 Lightweight, dark colored bath towels
- 2 Bath size bars of soap (no mini bars)
- 3 Adult size toothbrush
- 4 Sturdy combs (no fine tooth or pocket)
- 5 Metal nail clippers

Please be generous as we assist our neighbors in need. Your hands doing God's work. **Deadline is May 30.**

**MR. STICKY'S STICKY BUN SALE  
pickup JUN 9, 3-5:30pm**

...sponsored by St. John's, Rngtn Think Tank for the Readers on the Grow program. Signup sheets are on the SS area table. **Order deadline SUN, MAY 30.**  
Cost: \$4/single \$20/half doz

**LA CASITA DE FAMILIA RESTAURANT  
GIFT CERTIFICAT FUNDRAISER**...sponsored by St. John's, Brndvl. Cost: \$15 each The \$15 certificate will be deducted from the total of your food purchase. Funds raised go to the General Fund. Certificates can be used at both locations in Shenandoah and the Hometown farmers market.

**ROCK YOUTH GROUP BUY A MILE**

Each mile you would like to buy is \$1.00 and will help ROCK get to the 2022 National Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Envelopes are located in the narthex at Brndvl and on the SS area table at Rngtn or write your name and "ROCK YOUTH GROUP BUY A MILE" on an envelope. Envelopes can be given to Laura Faust or Jamie Serafin or mailed to the church office PO Box 261, Ringtown, PA 17967 Thank you for continuing to support ROCK.

**HELEN ROULIN SCHOLARSHIP  
Deadline: May 2**

All Ringtown Valley high school girls grades 9-12 are eligible and encouraged to apply. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of community involvement rather than scholastic aptitude, academics, or athletics. Call the church office for an application 570-889-5203.

**RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES  
SUN, MAY 16**

If you know any member who is graduating or has graduated from high school, college, or other schools during the year, please contact the church office with their name so they can be included in this year's recognition.

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

- 5-2 Helen Roulin scholarship deadline
- 5-13 10am Annual Ascension Day Worship at Old White Church
- 5-15 10am-1pm Ringtown Library Reach for the Stars Field Day at the recreation complex
- 5-16 Recognition of Graduates 5-7pm St. Paul's Ice Cream Social
- 5-23 Day of Pentecost – Affirmation of Baptism
- 5-30 Mr. Sticky's order deadline for 6-9 pickup 3-5:30pm
- 6-(21-25) Vacation Bible School – tentative
- 7-(16-18) Ringtown Library Book sale at Sr. Citizens
- 7-17 Ringtown Library Yard Sale Day
- 8-8 10:30am Old White Church Joint service
- 8-20&21 22<sup>nd</sup> Annual Town Social
- 9-11 Boy Scout Spaghetti Dinner at St John's, Rngtn
- 9-11 11am-3pm Ringtown Library Basket Raffle
- 9-12 God's Work Our Hands Sunday
- 9-16 Brndvl Hoagie Sale
- 10-9 8<sup>th</sup> Annual Fall Festival
- 7-(24-28)-2022 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN

**Donating through a QCD**

If you are age 70 ½ or older, IRS rules may allow you to take required minimum distributions (RMDs) each year from your tax-deferred retirement accounts (IRAs, 401(k)s, 403(b)s, 457(b)s, inherited IRA plans, etc.). If you take the RMD as income, it will count as taxable income. This additional taxable income may push you into a high tax bracket and may also reduce your eligibility for certain tax credits and deductions. To eliminate or reduce the impact of RMD income, instead consider making a qualified charitable distribution (QCD) to St. John's Lutheran. Please speak with your financial advisor before taking any funds from your tax Deferred retirement account.

**ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?**

If you are a Thrivent member and qualify to apply for a \$250 Thrivent Action Team Project seed money gift card, please contact the church office. We have several upcoming events at Brandonville and Ringtown, and some of our Thrivent members have already applied for previous events. These gift cards help purchase supplies for our events and add to the profits raised. Benefit members qualify for 2 cards per year. If you are not sure, contact Thrivent to see if your products qualify. Your help is greatly appreciated!