

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR MAY 3, 2021

Those council members in attendance were: Pastor Jay, Bill Rudolph, Clarissa Geary, Joan Mensinger, Debbie Shoup, Janice Wasser, Laura Faust, Jerid Lindenmuth, Wayne Mensinger, Gail Becker, and Bob Decusky. Also in attendance were Judy Rudolph and Marion Chupasco. The minutes of the April meeting were read and approved. Treasurers' reports were given, reviewed, approved, and filed for audit. Jamie was present to explain details of the new camera, iPad, and recording of the service.

Pastor's report: 2 catechism classes, 4 prayer chats, 6 private communions, 6 private counseling sessions, 2 baptisms, and one meeting of the Library Board. Views of recorded services on YouTube have been down since we are back to in person church services. Confirmation is set for Pentecost Sunday, May 23. Karleigh Mae Burke, Regan Christine Campbell, Landon Carl Ferrara, Emily Mae Petritsch, Melina Monica Pitsko, and Randi Renee Wood will be confirmed if they meet all of the confirmation obligations. Pastor Jay thanked Marion for all of her help and cooperation in completing all of the things that had to be done during the last year of the pandemic. Council gave Marion a round of applause to show their appreciation for her hard work.

Office report was reviewed. The Bach and Handel Christmas Concert will be scheduled for 12/11/2021 barring any problems with the pandemic. Wayne and council thanked Pastor Jay for all of his hard work during the pandemic also.

Committee reports:

Think Tank: We will enter a float in the Memorial Day Parade with reading as the theme. We hope to get the word out on the Readers On The Grow program and also partner with the Library on the importance of reading. We also plan to do interviews with various members of the congregation and community organizations, Girl Scouts, Boy Scouts, Little League, etc. to create awareness of what our community has to offer. The Fall Festival is being planned and a discussion on a possible Christmas in July event.

Property: The lawn mower needs to be serviced.

Old Business: Tuition will be paid for 2 Bear Creek Camp attendees from our congregation. A lengthy discussion was held on the need to purchase a copyright license to continue broadcasting our services on YouTube. It was also decided to have lay readers added to services and have communion once a month plus festivals. As of now we will distribute communion at the end of the service at the rear of the church as people are leaving, the same as we did Easter Sunday. We will continue as we have been and will add singing one hymn at the end of the service. Masks will still be required and we will add more member participation. For our joint service at the Old White Church communion will be distributed outside at the end of the service. The Pork dinner was discussed and some possible changes to make it more successful.

New Business: Delegates are needed for Synod Assembly to be held in June by Zoom.

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

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR MAY 4, 2021

Members in attendance were: Pastor Jay, Deb Kapusnick, Judi Kline, Millie Krupilis, Bob Fritz, Dotsy Fritz, Georgette Herring, Marion Chupasco

Secretary's report: read and approved.

Treasurers' reports: reviewed and sent to audit.

Pastor's report: 6 private communions, 3 counseling sessions, 4 Zoom Prayer Chats, 2 Zoom catechism classes, 2 baptisms (1 Rngtn, 1 Brndvl), Ringtown Library board meeting, average 20 service views. Pastor Jay thanked Marion for all her help during this challenging year with all the extra work and information that needed to be shared and sent out to members. Council members also thanked her and Pastor Jay for all of their hard work. Also, a thank you to Jamie for recording the services.

Office report: available for review.

Old Business: Fundraisers are a work in progress. We received funds from the Jean Keller estate which were deposited in the Building/Maintenance Fund for safekeeping until a decision is made about the disposition. Worship going forward was discussed. Copyright was discussed in order to livestream the service using the hymnal liturgies and hymns. We will continue as we have been for now and add member participation. Masks and distancing will still be required. Communion will be the first Sunday of the month and festivals. All services through May will be held in the church with possibly using the Sekula pavilion occasionally during warmer weather. Communion assistants for 5-23 will be Bob and Duane and for 5-30 Millie and Duane. Georgette will usher for communion. Signup sheets will be available for volunteers for future services. Singing the last hymn is tabled until June meeting. The Old White Church joint service will be held on August 8 with communion outside as people leave. Our annual worship and covered dish picnic will be held on July 25 at the Sekula pavilion.

New Business: Synod Assembly is being held online and delegates are needed. Barbara Kawa requested permission to transfer the General Fund account from BB&T bank to M&T since the Shenandoah BB&T branch is closing. June meeting to be held at the pavilion.

Meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Marion Chupasco, acting Secretary

Remember your church this summer.....



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. 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.

CHRISTMAS IN JULY

JULY 24, 5-7pm in St. John's parking lot

...Santa Claus, hamburgers, hot dogs, games & activities for all ages, Christmas storytelling, Christmas cookie contest, FREE...watch for more info as plans are made.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

6-9 3-5:30pm Mr. Sticky's pickup in St. John's pavilion
6-(11-12) St. Mary's Block party & horseshoe tournament 6-12
6-(21-25) 6:30-8pm Vacation Bible School
6-26 St. Paul's Community picnic
7-(16-18) Ringtown Library Book sale at Sr. Citizens
7-17 Ringtown Library Yard Sale Day
7-24 5-7pm Christmas in July in St. John's parking lot
8-8 10:30am Old White Church Joint service
8-20&21 22nd 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 8th 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.

INTERESTED IN HELPING TO RECORD WORSHIP SERVICES?

...see Jamie Serafin for more information about this opportunity.

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

As we begin to transition into more worship participation, there are signup sheets available for greeters, communion ushers, lay readers, or communion assistants.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUN 21-25, 6:30-8pm

Mark the dates on your calendar now and plan to attend. Teachers and helpers are needed. Please contact the church office if you can help. Won't you consider sharing your faith with our youth? **Registration deadline is JUN 6.**
VBS staff meeting JUN 13, 7pm at St. John's.

22nd ANNUAL TOWN SOCIAL FRI & SAT, AUG 20 & 21 DONATIONS REQUESTED...

It's time once again to prepare for our Town Social by asking for your help with donations:
- soda-12 oz cans (Coke, Pepsi, Mt. Dew, Root Beer, Sprite, Ginger Ale) Also diet & caffeine free in each brand
- bottled water (16 ounce bottles)
- hot cups (8 ounce)
- paper towels
- heavy duty plastic forks
- napkins
- 9 & 10 inch heavy duty paper plates (no styrofoam)

Signup sheets will be available on the table in the SS area for other donations needed for our Town Social. Donations of baked goods should be brought on FRI & SAT, AUG 20 & 21.

We will once again have the theme basket auction. Donations of **new items** to be used to assemble theme baskets are requested (i.e. baby items, fishing, car care, baking, gardening, hair/body care, gift certificates, etc.). If you would like to donate a completed theme basket, please contact Jamie Serafin and let her know what type it would be. Theme basket donations are accepted at the discretion of the committee.

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!