

Members in attendance were Ron Ferrara, Debbie Shoup, Mandy Campbell, Bill Rudolph, Wayne Mensinger, Joan Mensinger, Pastor Jay, Jerid Lindenmuth, Bob Decusky, and Clarissa Geary. Also in attendance were Marion Chupasco, Judy Rudolph, and Gary Schell. President Bob Decusky opened the meeting with devotions. The minutes of the June meeting were read and approved with one correction. Treasurer's reports were given, reviewed, approved and filed for audit.

Pastor's report: There were 14 private communions, 2 private counselings, 1 funeral, 1 hospital visit, 1 baptism and attendance at Synod assembly online where Cassandra Teter was elected to synod council. Also attended a VBS meeting and taught at VBS which was held in the garage and pavilion with an average of 15 students in attendance. There were 20 views for online worship.

Office report was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Social Ministry: We Care Packages were delivered. Discussion was held on what project should be used for the September 12 God's Work Our Hands. The Beef Bracirole dinner is scheduled for September 1. Donations of women's deodorant and toothpaste are being collected for the homeless shelter in Pottsville.

Capital Campaign: Met twice via Zoom. Decided to start the campaign mid August. The committee is asking for volunteers to become members.

Think Tank: Met and finalized plans for Christmas in July to be held on the 24th with a raindate of July 25. Cookie bakers are needed for the contest. Santa will be set up by the shed decorated for Christmas. Pastor Jay would like to interview Wayne as chair of the Town Social committee on Eagle Eye on Ringtown to get the word out and create interest in the event. Also discussion was held and letters were sent out to vendors for the Fall Festival.

Town Social: Held 2 meetings with another one to be held on August 4 at 6:30. Bands have been booked for both days. Donation of baskets for the Tricky Trays are needed. Checking on licenses.

Property: The mower has been serviced.

Old Business: The folding machine will be serviced if parts are available. It was decided to stay with the Toshiba copier. August 15 will be the congregational meeting to finalize business that was delayed because of Covid restrictions. Several CD's were discussed. Will check on software and other programs for the Treasurer. Ashley will be paid as a supply pastor when she fills in for Pastor Jay. Gloves should be worn by the communion assistant passing out the wafers.

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

**ST. JOHN'S, RNGTN
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING
SUN, AUG 15,**
following morning worship
Please bring your Annual Report booklet.

Members In Attendance: Pastor Jay, Mario Curreli, Dotsy Fritz, Bob Fritz, Marie Clark, Millie Krupilis, Judi Kline, Georgette Herring, Joe Cocco, Marion Chupasco

Secretary' Report: Approved as amended.

Treasurers' Reports: Available for review and sent to audit. The account at BB&T bank was closed out and moved to M&T bank.

Pastor's Report: Funerals 1, private counseling 2, hospital visits 1, private communions 14, baptisms 2. Pastor Jay attended the Synod Assembly online and different sessions that were available. He attended a Vacation Bible School planning meeting. Vacation Bible school was a little different this year. The staff took different roles and the program went well. He attended the Ringtown Library Board meeting. The views for YouTube averaged about 15. Pastor Jay and Jamie expressed a thank-you for the vacation time they had.

Office Report: Available for review. The annual congregational picnic is scheduled for 07/25/2021 at 4:00 p.m. The service and picnic will be at Sekula's pavilion.

Old Business: The Redner's hoagie sale is scheduled for 08/01/2021. The proceeds will go to the General Fund. The La Casita restaurant gift certificates are still available. Those proceeds will go to the General Fund. Thank-you to Ashley Teter for conducting the service while Pastor Jay was on vacation. The service went well. Pastor Jay responded to the Trailer Riders. Our service on that Sunday will be held at Sekula's pavilion. The special congregational meeting regarding the Keller estate was held on 06/27/2021. Members did express their opinions. There was a question raised about paving the parking area with regard to wording in the deed. Burials were addressed in the deed, however, we will need to verify about the parking lot. An idea sheet will be sent out to the congregation to submit their ideas. The council will then review the ideas. The sheets need to be returned by the end of September. The copy machine: we went with Toshiba. This is the same brand we have been using.

New Business: Bob Fitz will look into what is involved with an elevator for the church. He will reach out to Shawn Clark to assist with gathering information.

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

**REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH WHILE ON
VACATION...**



*Joint Communion Worship
at the Old White Church
Sun, Aug 8, 10:30am*

Mark the date and come join in celebrating Holy Communion in this historical landmark.

*Old White Church
Special Offering Appeal*

The church councils have designated the month of August for our annual appeal to raise funds for the Old White Church. Your donations will be presented to the Old White Church Preservation Fund on behalf of our congregations to help with the maintenance, upkeep, and finances of this historical landmark. Please write your name and "Old White Church" on an envelope and place it in the offering plate or mail to the church office: PO Box 261, Ringtown, PA 17967

**BEEF BRACIOLE DINNER
WED, SEP 1, 4-6pm**

...sponsored by Social Ministry

Menu: stuffing wrapped in beef, baked potato, veg, coleslaw, roll, butter, dessert COST: \$10.00

TAKEOUTS ONLY

For Tickets call 570-889-5309 or 570-889-5203

**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.



**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.

**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
- hot cups (8 ounce)
- paper towels
- heavy duty plastic forks
- napkins
- 9 & 10 inch heavy duty paper plates (no styrofoam)

Signup sheets are 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. Help is needed for set up on Thursday at 6pm and in food stands both days.

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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 8-7 4pm-? Mt. Zion picnic
- 8-8 10:30am Old White Church Joint service
- 8-8 4pm ROCK Youth Group trip to Heisler's
- 8-8 4-8pm AMUMC Peach Social
- 8-20&21 22nd Annual Town Social
- 8-22 11am-3pm Ringtown Little League Chicken BBQ \$10/meal
- 8-29 12-3pm Ringtown Rotary Pig Roast \$13/meal takeout only
- 9-1 4-6pm Beef Braciole dinner at St. John's, Rngtn
- 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
- 10-2 11am-sellout AMUMC Soup Sale
(preorder 9-7 to 24 Louise 570-889-5925)
- 10-9 8th Annual Fall Festival
- 12-11 3pm Bach & Handel Chorale Christmas concert
at St. John's, Rngtn
- 7-(24-28)-2022 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN

SOCIAL MINISTRY SERVANTS TO ALL PROJECT

The Social Ministry Committee will now be collecting men's and women's new underwear (various sizes), women's deodorant, and toothpaste for Servants to All serving the homeless of Schuylkill County. A seed grant from Thrivent will be used for this project. Donation container is in the SS area.

CAPITAL CAMPAIGN

Because of issues surrounding Covid-19, our Capital Campaign Committee delayed the beginning of St. John's Capital Campaign program. Later this summer, we will be meeting with KLS Services to begin laying the groundwork for the Campaign. It is our intention to start the Campaign in full at the beginning of September and finish the Campaign by November. Please keep your eyes open for upcoming announcements from the Capital Campaign Committee as we put together this effort to fund the construction of a new church facility. As always, contributions toward this effort can be made at any time by earmarking your donation to the Special Building Fund of St. John's Lutheran Church. Thank you for the many ways you support our congregation's ministry and mission.

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!

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.

FOOD PANTRY-REDNERS GIFT CARDS

2nd SAT of month, 9-11am at Ringtown

3rd SAT of month, 9-11am, FEB, APR, JUN, AUG, OCT, DEC at Nuremberg

REDNERS GIFT CARDS are available for purchase to help fund the Ringtown Food Pantry. The pantry receives 5% on gift card sales. Contact Susie Drukker 889-3755 or Ann O'Boyle 889-5305 to purchase cards for \$20, \$25, or \$50. Use your card at Redners and the church or Brandonville Union Sunday School will receive 1% for all receipts submitted through them, helping fund another organization, too.

NOTE: All eligible area residents may file papers to choose to go to either the Ringtown or Nuremberg Food Pantry. You must choose one or the other, you cannot go to both.

A Food Pantry is available at the Ringtown Union Twp. building and at the North Union Twp. building in Nuremberg for all area residents of Ringtown Borough, North Union, East Union, and Union Twp. Donations of non-perishable food items are requested to help stock them. Please bring your donations to the church or other designated collection sites. Ringtown area clergy will refer people to the pantry.

BOXTOPS, SOUP, & TYSON PROJECT A+ LABELS FOR EDUCATION... The Box Tops for Education

program is going digital with a new mobile app which will allow parents to scan their store receipt and earn money for their kiddo's school! To earn Box Tops, just purchase products with the new Box Tops label, scan your receipt with the new Box Tops app (for iTunes or Google Play) and earn 10¢ per participating product. After the receipt is scanned, money will automatically be added to your school's earnings online. Note that **your receipts must be scanned within 14 days of purchase** but you can scan 50 receipts per day, per registered account. The mobile app will also allow you to track your contributions as well as your school's running total...at Rngtn for North Schuylkill Elementary and at Brndvl for Valley Elementary. The old boxtops can be submitted until they are phased out.

