

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN  
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR AUGUST 2, 2021

**Members in attendance** were Wayne Mensinger, Joan Mensinger, Janice Wasser, Bob Decusky, Bill Rudolph, Mandy Campbell, and Pastor Jay. Also in attendance were Gary Schell, Marion Chupasco, and Judy Rudolph. Joan opened the meeting with devotions. The minutes were read and approved with one correction. Treasurers' reports were given, reviewed, approved and filed for audit.

**Pastor's report:** There were 4 private communions, 3 private counseling's, 2 funerals, 5 hospital visits, 1 prebaptism, 1 baptism, and two Eagle Eye on Ringtown interviews. One interview was with Clarissa Geary and Bob Llewellyn pertaining to Christmas in July and the other was with Susie Drucker about the food pantry. Christmas in July had 64 views so far and the food pantry had 67. Pastor also attended a Library Board meeting. He also thanked Ashley Teter for leading the service while he was on vacation. That service averaged 31 views online.

**Office report** was reviewed.

**Committee reports:**

**Social Ministry:** August 15<sup>th</sup> is the deadline for collection of goods for the homeless shelter in Pottsville.

**Capital Campaign:** Meeting with Gene Musser was rescheduled for August 26.

**Think Tank:** Beginning in early August all vendors can apply for spaces to sell any open goods. Christmas in July was successful with approximately 150 people attending.

**Town Social:** Meeting set for August 4 at 6:30. There have been some signups for help.

**Building:** All easements and right of ways have been ok'd by the senior citizens center. All paperwork from the engineering is in the hands of borough council for signatures and approvals.

**Old Business:** The estate of Kathryn Fetterman has been settled. Once the check is received it will be deposited in the Money Market account until a decision is made on where it should go, possibly a CD. Communion at the Old White Church will be received at the end of the service as congregants leave the building. If the weather cooperates, we will hold the 1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays of September inside for communion and the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> outdoors.

**New Business:** We will prepay 4000 gallons of oil. Vacation was approved for Pastor Jay from September 2 through September 8. The new insurance contract was received to go into effect on September 1. It was suggested a cleanup around the church could be held for God's Work Our Hands which is September 12. Our next council meeting will be held on Sunday, September 12 at 6:30 due to Labor Day being on the first Monday. Wayne will have devotions.

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

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE  
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR AUGUST 3, 2021

**Members In Attendance:** Pastor Jay, Mario Curreli, Dotsy Fritz, Bob Fritz, Millie Krupilis, Judi Kline, Deb Kapusnick, Joe Cocco, Marion Chupasco

**Secretary's Report:** Approved as read.

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

**Pastor's Report:** Had a week of vacation, 5 hospital visits, 4 private communions, 3 counseling sessions, 2 pre baptismal sessions, 2 funerals, 1 baptism, 2 Eagle Eye on Ringtown interviews.

**Office Report:** Available for review.

**Old Business:** YouTube average of 12 views. Rock will go to Heisler's on AUG 8. Fundraisers: are a work in progress. La Casita de Familia certificates are still available. Worship and covered dish picnic on July 25 went well with 23 attending. We may consider having an additional worship and picnic while weather is still nice. Keller estate: Elevator – Bob Fritz made some calls, but has not heard back yet. Question raised at the congregational meeting – Can we pave the parking lot? Send out an idea sheet for input from members who did not attend the meeting. We do have a deed for the parking lot area. Bob Fritz reviewed the deed which states no burials or monuments are to be placed on the area. Bob also read the Brandonville Union Sunday School minutes from June 6, 1987 concerning the purchase of the parking lot land. September 16 is the hoagie sale. We will check into applying for a Thrivent card.

**New Business:** August 8 will be the Joint Worship service at the Old White Church with communion outside. Communion will be at the end of the service following the last hymn. Bob Fritz will assist in ushering people out to receive communion. Pastor Jay requested vacation September 2 to 8.

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

**PASTOR JAY AWAY - SEP 2-8**

In the event of a pastoral emergency, please call the church office 570-889-5203 or Marion Chupasco 570-889-3393; and she will contact pastoral coverage.

**REMEMBER YOUR CHURCH THIS MONTH...**





## **LABOR SUNDAY SUN, SEP 5**

You are invited to wear your “work” clothes and bring a “tool” of your vocation to be brought forward and placed on the altar.

## **CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF BLESSING OF BACKPACKS & FALL ACTIVITIES SUN, SEP 12**

All students are invited to bring their backpacks to be blessed during our morning worship and all are invited to bring items related to their favorite Fall activities to be blessed.

## **SUNDAY SCHOOL SUN, SEP 12 10am at Brndvl**

Sunday School is a valuable way to nurture our children and help them grow in their Christian faith. All of our young people, as well as adults, are encouraged to attend. Classes are available for age 3 and up. If you know someone who needs transportation, offer them a ride or contact the church office and we will try to provide transportation. Sunday School teachers also play an important role in our children’s faith life. Please consider being part of this educational process and sharing your faith with our youth. **Teachers and helpers are needed!**

## **HARVEST HOME SUN, SEP 19**

If you would like to provide fresh produce, canned goods, etc. to help decorate the altar area for Harvest Home, please bring these items to the church on SAT, SEP 18, by 12noon. Please write your name and “Harvest Home” on an envelope and place it in the offering plate or mail to the church office: PO Box 261, Ringtown, PA 17967

## **CAMPUS & SERVICE ADDRESS UPDATES**

If you know of any member who is attending school away from home or in the service, please notify the church office with their address so they can be included on our mailing list. This is a way to keep our young adults up to date with news and happenings in their church family.

## **BOSCOV’S “FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS” EVENT WED, OCT 20**

...sponsored by St. John’s. For \$5 donation you receive a 25% off shopping pass (in store only) and you can register to win prizes. The entire \$5 donation benefits St. John’s.

## **FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION SUN, SEP 19, 12noon at Rngtn**

All members in 1<sup>st</sup> grade or those who have not yet received prior instruction are required to complete these classes in order to receive communion. Parents are also asked to attend this meeting. If you are aware of any member who should attend, please contact the church office with their name or bring them to this meeting.

## **CATECHISM INSTRUCTION SUN, SEP 19, 12:30pm at Rngtn**

All 8<sup>th</sup> & 9<sup>th</sup> grade members and those eligible who have not been confirmed yet and their parents are asked to attend this meeting. Information about this year’s program will be shared. If you are aware of any member who should attend, please contact the church office with their name or bring them to this meeting.

## **REDNER’S HOAGIE VOUCHER FUNDRAISER**

...sponsored by St. John’s, Brndvl Cost: \$5 each/6 inch hoagie Vouchers can be used at Redner’s deli or Quick Shoppe. Funds raised to benefit the General Fund.

## **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

**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.



## **8<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL FALL FESTIVAL SAT, OCT 9, 11am-5pm, at St. John’s, Rngtn**

Food, crafts, games. Pick up a vendor application at St. John’s Lutheran Church or the Ringtown Library. Call 570-889-5203.

*What in the world is God doing?  
How can I help?*

**OLD WHITE CHURCH  
APPRECIATION OPEN HOUSE  
SUN, SEP 19, 2-4pm  
at the Old White Church**

**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 sign-up sheets available for greeters, communion ushers, lay readers, or communion assistants.

**TIME & TALENTS**

Time & Talent forms for the upcoming 2021-2022 church year are enclosed in your APOSTLE. Please be sure to fill out a new form so we know what your current interests are. Each opportunity or committee you sign up for is given your name to be contacted or scheduled when help is needed. **By filling out a new form annually** you can omit any volunteer items you no longer want to do and sign up for new ones you would like to try. Please don't forget! Place your completed form in the offering plate or mail it to the church office so that your name is included to be contacted.

**YOU MAKE OUR MINISTRY HAPPEN!  
HELP KEEP IT GOING & GROWING!**

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

9-1 4-6pm Beef Bracirole dinner at St. John's, Rngtn  
9-11 4-6pm 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 - cancelled  
9-19 2-4pm Old White Church open house  
9-19 3pm Painting Class at St. John's, Rngtn  
9-24 St. Mary's Shoo Fly Pie & Crust order deadline for  
9-28 pickup 10am-noon  
570-889-3850 or 570-889-3825 wet bottom pie \$8 crust \$3  
10-2 11am-sellout AMUMC Soup Sale (preorder 9-7to24  
Louise 570-889-5925)  
10-9 8th Annual Fall Festival  
10-19 3-6pm St. Paul's Salisbury Steak or Roasted Chicken Dinner  
\$10 each Take out only  
Call 570- 889-5912, 570-889-3494, 570-889-3074 to order  
10-20 Boscov's Friends Helping Friends event (in store only)  
12-11 3pm Bach&Handel ChoraleChristmasconcert, St.John's,Rng  
7-(24-28)-2022 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN

**RINGTOWN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN**

The Capital Campaign Committee has been meeting with our consultant, Mr. Gene Musser, to put the final touches on our Capital Campaign at St. John's, Ringtown, as we move toward the construction of a new church facility. We will run the campaign through the months of September, October, and November this Fall as we ask our members to consider prayerfully how each may be a part of our effort to finance the construction project. Over the coming weeks we will lay out our capital campaign process and share with you more detailed information about our building project. Soon, a congregational mailing will be sent to kick off the campaign, followed by the campaign itself. Please look to future newsletters, bulletins, and special announcements as you seek information about the process and how you can be an integral part of it. As always, if you have any questions, feel free to contact the church office or Pastor Jay. Please know that we are grateful for the many ways you participate in our ministry here at St. John's and for the many ways you contribute to help support the mission we share.

**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

5  
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.

