

Council members present were Clarissa Geary, Mandy Campbell, Bill Rudolph, Bob Decusky, Wayne Mensinger, Joan Mensinger, Debbie Shoup, Janice Wasser, Jerid Lindenmuth, and Laura Faust. Also present were Marion Chupasco, Judy Rudolph, Gary Schell, and Bob Llewellyn. As a member of the building committee Bob Llewellyn reported on the condition of the stained glass window in the front of the church. The meeting then opened with the reading of the October minutes which were approved as read. Treasurer's reports were given, reviewed, approved, and filed for audit.

Pastor's report: 11 hospital visits, 10 private communions, 1 new member counseling, 4 first communion sessions, and 1 Eagle Eye on Ringtown with the Lion's Club. Over 350 hot chocolates were served on Trick or Treat night. Dylan Melnick will receive first communion. A motion was made to accept Matthew and Nicole Brouse and children as new members.

Office report was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Social Ministry: Hosted a presentation by Attorney Mika's office on estate planning.

Think Tank: Fall festival went well.

Capital Campaign: Gene Musser gave a Kick Off presentation on October 3. Information has been going out to the congregation including letters, brochures, and pledge cards. Mandy Campbell also gave a presentation at the October 17 church service. So far there are approximately 20 pledges amounting to almost \$197,000. A motion was made to combine the Special Building Fund and the Capital Campaign into one account which will be separate from the Maintenance and Improvement Fund. Judy Rudolph has agreed to managing both accounts. Envelopes will be ordered for the Capital Campaign with 36 envelopes to cover monthly contributions throughout the 3year campaign. Envelopes will be larger than our weekly offering envelopes so they can be easily separated. They will also contain a privacy flap.

Youth Group: Hoagie and apple dumplings that were ordered will be distributed on November 2, election day.

Old Business: Wayne will check into snow shoveling around the church this winter. Bob will look for a sale on salt and purchase bags to have available. The Scouts will take garbage to the containers on the parsonage side of the church to avoid it piling up in the boiler room. Bill has volunteered to monitor the opening and closing of windows during Sunday services. A vote will be held on Sunday, November 7 asking the congregation if we should continue singing only the last hymn of the service or if we should resume singing all three hymns. If it is decided to sing all three, the change will take place on November 28, the first Sunday of Advent.

New Business: Synod Benevolence will remain the same for 2022. A budget meeting will be scheduled for November 16, 17, or 18 at 6:30 depending on Brandonville's availability. There will be 3 openings on council with Ron Ferrara's and Joan Mensinger's terms ending and a vacancy that was never filled. Gary Schell has agreed to fulfill one of the vacancies and Bob will ask a few congregation members if they are willing to serve.

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

Members in Attendance: Pastor Jay, Bob Fritz, Marie Clark, Debbie Kapusnick, Mario Curreli, Georgette Herring, Judi Kline, Marion Chupasco Devotions were given by Pastor Jay.

Secretary's Report: Approved as read.

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

Pastor's Report: Baptisms 4, Hospital visits 11, Private counseling 1, Private communions 10, New member visit 1, Eagle Eye interviews 1 (Lion's Group), First Holy Communion instructional sessions 4 (Pastor Jay conducted individual sessions with the children.) There were a total of 4 children. Attended Ringtown Library Board finance committee meeting. The youth group's hoagie/sandwich fund raiser raised approximately 699.00\$ for the National Youth Gathering. There is one youth from Brandonville who will be attending, C.J. Oslar.

Office Report: Available for review.

Old Business: La Casita De Familia coupons are still available. We are selling coupons for Redner's hoagies for 5.00\$. The parking lot: there is no new information to report. The Keller estate: we will present recommendations to the congregation and the cost of those recommendations. Some other suggestions were provided. A summation of the suggestions will be presented at the annual congregational meeting in January. The two bigger items for now are the elevator and the parking lot. All of the suggestions will be reviewed by council.

New Business: The Synod has requested that we send a preliminary benevolence. We will do what we have done for this year (1450.00\$/quarter). Ringtown has requested a budget committee meeting. This is for the parish budget, our combined expenses. Marie, Georgette, and Mario have volunteered to participate. The meeting will be on the 16th at 6:30 p.m. There are three council members whose terms are ending in January. They are Mario Curreli, Millie Krupilis, and Deb Kapusnick. Mario and Deb have agreed to stay on council. We will ask Millie if she is willing to stay on. There is one open unexpired term. The use of the new hymnals will be tabled until after the new year. We will soon be celebrating the Advent season and will start singing all three hymns. We are planning some kind of communion service for Christmas Eve.

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

HEATING FUND ENVELOPES

Your donations in this envelope will be used to help defray the rising cost of heating the church building during the winter months. Please be sure to write your name and envelope number on the outside. Envelope may be placed in the offering plate or mailed to the church office.

Remember your church at Christmas...



2022 CHURCH COUNCIL

Term ending DEC 2022	Term ending DEC 2022
Mandy Campbell	Marie Clark
Corey Houser	Bob Fritz
Wayne Mensinger	Judi Kline
Bill Rudolph	Term ending DEC 2023
Term ending DEC 2023	Joe Cocco
Robert Decusky	Dotsy Fritz
Laura Faust	Georgette Herring
Jerid Lindenmuth	Term ending DEC 2024
Deb Shoup	Mario Curreli
Term ending DEC 2024	Deb Kapusnick
Clarissa Geary	Millie Krupilis
Tracy Laudeman	
Gary Schell	
Janice Wasser	

Brandonville Union Sunday School
Christmas program
Sun, Dec 5, 4pm

...light refreshments will follow. All are welcome to attend.

SUNDAY SCHOOL **SUN, 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!**

CATECHISM CLASS **SUN, DEC 5, 1pm on Zoom**

All 8th & 9th grade members and those eligible who have not been confirmed yet are required to attend classes and fulfill expectations in order to affirm their baptism on the Day of Pentecost, June 5, 2022.

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.

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.

PASTOR JAY AWAY – DEC 26-31

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.



CELEBRATING 90+ BIRTHDAY!

Please send your birthday wishes to our members celebrating 90+ birthdays this month:

12-13 Allen Stauffer, Sr. 946 Green Mountain Rd. Zion Grove, PA 17985	1-14 Lois Faust 523 W. Main St. Ringtown, PA 17967
1-18 Creta Lindenmuth 284 W. Main St. Ringtown, PA 17967	1-25 Mildred Stauffer 946 Green Mountain Rd. Zion Grove, PA 17985

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.

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.



St. John's Helping Hands
"White Gifts"

St. John's Helping Hands is requesting donations of "White Gifts" wrapped in white paper and marked man or woman and contents marked on the tag (i.e. powder, slippers, socks, shirt, necklace, etc.). These gifts will be donated to the nursing homes. **Deadline: DEC 12**

**CHRISTMAS FLOWERS
& MEMORIALS**

Signup sheets for Christmas memorials and flowers not ordered through Cerebral Palsy are on the table in the SS area at Ringtown and in the narthex at Brandonville.

Please note the use of different funds:

General: day to day operating expenses

Memorial: worship supplies (altarware, candles, paraments, linens, music, etc.)

Capital Campaign (Rngtn): toward new church building

Endowment (Rngtn): savings for future needs

Cemetery: upkeep of cemetery

Deadline: DEC 15 to be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin.

LUMINARY MEMORIALS

The Ringtown Sunday School is once again making luminaries to light on Christmas Eve. A signup sheet is on the table in the SS area if you would like to sponsor a luminary in honor or memory of someone for Christmas. Donation is \$5.00 each for Lutheran World Relief.

Deadline is DEC 15 to be included in the Christmas Eve bulletin. Sponsors are welcome to take the luminaries home following the Christmas Eve service.

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.

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

CHRISTMAS CAROLING
SUN, DEC 19, 6pm
...starting and ending at St. John's
All ages welcome.



**CHRISTMAS EVE
WORSHIP**

DEC 24

BRANDONVILLE 7pm
RINGTOWN 10pm

Come and celebrate Christmas Eve with Holy Communion, carols, and candlelight.

UPCOMING EVENTS

12-4&5 2-7pm Ringtown Olde Fashioned Christmas

12-5 4pm BUSS Christmas program

12-5 7pm St. Paul's Hanging of the Greens

12-11 Bach & Handel Chorale Christmas concert – cancelled

12-19 6pm St. John's, Rngtn Christmas Caroling

12-24 Christmas Eve Candlelight Communion 7pm-B 10pm-R

12-26 Service of Lessons and Carols

1-5-22 Annual Report deadline for committee & organization reports

1-10-22 deadline for treasurers' books for audit

1-16 2pm Prayer for Christian Unity service, AMU Methodist Church

1-22-22 Learning Ministries Day at Atonement, Wyomissing

1-30-22 Annual Congregational mtgs B & R

7-(24-28)-22 ELCA Youth Gathering in Minneapolis, MN

8-19&22-22 4-9pm 23rd Annual Town Social

10-8-22 11am-5pm 9th Annual Fall Festival

The Magic of
Christmas
is not in the presents
but in
His 
presence