

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR MAY 1, 2023**

Council members present were: Clarissa Geary, Bob Decusky, Deb Shoup, Gary Schell, Laura Faust, Mandy Campbell, Jerid Lindenmuth, Tracy Laudeman, Jewel Tuberty, Janice Wasser, and Gary Williams. Also present were Pastor Smith, Marion Chupasco, and Judy Rudolph. The meeting was opened with Laura reading devotions. Minutes from last month were read and approved.

Treasurer reports were reviewed and filed for audit.

Pastor's report: Ascension Day will be held May 18 at the Old White Church with luncheon to follow at Senior Citizens Building. Mount Zion Lutheran Church will hold their Strawberry Festival on June 17th.

Office report was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Think Tank - Mr. Sticky sale is being held currently. Delivery will be June 7th from 3 - 5:30pm. All orders must be in by May 28th.

Social Ministry -15 food baskets were made and distributed to the shut-ins for Easter. A visit with our oldest member, Marie Shoup, was done with a balloon and card party for her. There will be a cleaning day at the Old White Church on May 11th at 9am.

Call Committee - A joint council meeting with Call Committee and Bishop was held on April 11th to review the Ministry site profile. A capital campaign report was added along with a brief new building report.

Capital Campaign - \$195,138.00 was received towards the \$300,000 goal as of April 30th.

Old Business: The parsonage garden will be tilled and planted. The parsonage screen door needs to be fixed.

New Business: The Ringtown Library has asked for use of the pavilion for the summer program.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Laura Faust, secretary

3 RNGTN VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

3 Volunteers are needed to schedule Communion Assistants, Lay Readers, and Acolytes for worship. Please let Marion know if you are willing to help with this.

**Remember your church while
on vacation.....**



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR MAY 2, 2023**

Members In Attendance: Pastor Phil Smith, Dotsy Fritz, Bob Fritz, Marie Clark, Millie Krupillis, Deb Kapusnick, Larry Grohol, Joe Cocco, Donna Anthony, Marion Chupasco

Secretary' Report: Approved as read.

Treasurer's Report: Available for review and sent to audit.

Pastor's Report: The Lenten services were well attended by both congregations. The Ascension Day service is scheduled for May 18th. at 10 a.m. This is the 125th anniversary of gathering at The Old White Church Ascension Day worship. Following the service there will be a lunch served at the senior citizens building. St. Paul's church has charge this year. Pastor Phil mentioned that on Memorial Day there will be a remembrance observed. The Strawberry Festival will also be returning in June.

Office Report: Available for review. We are waiting to schedule two baptisms and new members. We will have a supply pastor for May 21 and 28. Bob Fritz will fill in on May 7th, and Grace Trutt will fill in on May 14th. The Sunday school is sponsoring a trip to Knoebel's amusement park on June 3rd. The annual congregational dinner will be held on August 26th instead of in November. It will be held at St. John's Ringtown church. Instead of a dinner it will be a covered dish picnic.

Old Business: Elevator: continues to be a work in progress. The project is almost completed. Once it is finished, it will need to be inspected. Parking lot: continues to be a work in progress, Fund Raisers: We are continuing to sell La Casita de Familia coupons for 15.00\$. Combining of the three financial funds: The policies and procedures for the separate accounts need to be reviewed and consolidated into one. Council will initiate this process after the elevator project is completed.

New Business: We need to consider a dedication service once the elevator project is completed. We are planning to have a plaque made in honor of Jean Keller, without her donation this project would not have been possible.

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

WORSHIP VOLUNTEERS

Signup sheets are available on the counter at Brndvl and on the SS area table at Rngtn. If you signed up as a communion assistant, lay reader, or usher on the Time & Talent sheets, please add your name and choose the dates you would like to serve. For those who are reading lessons, the Celebrate inserts are also there to take.

SYNOD ASSEMBLY

THR-SAT, JUN 1-3, at the Kalahari Resort

1 male and 1 female delegate are needed to represent each congregation. If you are interested in attending, please contact the church office for information. This is a great opportunity to experience the work of our church at large----beyond the Ringtown Valley.

WORSHIP COMMITTEES FOR JUNE 2023

Brandonville

Altar: Millie Krupilis

Ringtown

Altar: Ann Kehley, Joan Medlinsky

Ushers: Laura Faust, Gary Schell

Nancy Stauffer, Gary Williams

Communion Glass Usher: Bob Decusky

WORSHIP COMMITTEES FOR JULY 2023

Brandonville

Altar: Dotsy Fritz, Gail Pretko

Ringtown

Altar: Janice Wasser

Ushers: Smokey & Linda Shoup

Communion Glass Usher:

WORSHIP COMMITTEES FOR AUGUST 2023

Brandonville

Altar: Paula Hornberger, Carol Sincavage

Ringtown

Altar: Judy Llewellyn, Linda Shoup

Ushers: Joan Mensinger, Bill Rudolph

Communion Glass Usher: Gary Schell

**BRANDONVILLE UNION
SUNDAY SCHOOL KNOEBELS TRIP
SAT, JUN 3
Meet at pavilion 5**

**BRANDONVILLE UNION
SUNDAY SCHOOL & CEMETERY ANNUAL
MEETING
MON, JUN 5, 7:30pm**

**MR. STICKY STICKY BUN SALE
pickup JUN 7, 3-5:30pm**

...sponsored by St. John's, Rngtn Think Tank Readers on the Grow program.

**HELPING HANDS
REORGANIZATIONAL MEETING
TUE, JUN 13, 7pm**
Please plan to attend. New members welcome.

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUN 19-23, 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 4.** Forms are on the kitchen counter at Brndvl and SS area table at Rngtn.

**ST. JOHN'S, BRANDONVILLE
WORSHIP & COVERED DISH PICNIC
SUN, JULY 30, 4pm, at the Sekula pavilion**

Worship to be held outside (weather permitting). You are asked to bring a covered dish as suggested by the first letter of your last name:

A-L Salads & Vegetables M-S Desserts T-Z Casseroles

**ST. JOHN'S, RNGTN CHICKEN BBQ
SUN, JUL 23, 11:30am-1:30pm**

...in the pavilion – takeout only \$13 each

1/2 BBQ chicken, baked potato, vegetable, cole slaw, roll & butter, dessert

*Joint Worship
at the Old White Church
Sun, Aug 13, 10:30am*

Mark the date and come join in celebrating worship 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. 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 Your donations in this envelope 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. Extra envelopes will be available on the table in the SS area.

**ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL
COVERED DISH PICNIC
SAT, AUGUST 26, 6pm
in St. John's, Rngtn pavilion**

You are asked to bring a covered dish as suggested by the first letter of your last name:

A-L Salads & Vegetables M-S Casseroles T-Z Desserts
Come and enjoy great food & fellowship!

JULY PRAYER LIST NOTE: If you are aware of anyone who should remain on our prayer list, please contact the church office. All other names will be removed in July.

**24th ANNUAL TOWN SOCIAL
FRI & SAT, AUG 18 & 19
DONATIONS REQUESTED...**

It's time once again to prepare for our Town Social by asking for your help with designated Sunday donations:

JUN 4: soda-12 oz cans (Coke, Pepsi, Mt. Dew, Root Beer, Sprite, Ginger Ale) Also diet & caffeine free in each brand

JUN 11: paper towels

JUN 18: napkins

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 18 & 19.

We will once again have the theme basket auction. If you would like to donate a completed theme basket, please contact the church office and let us know what type it would be.

Suggested theme baskets: baby items, fishing, car care, baking, gardening, hair/body care, gift certificates, etc.

Theme basket donations are accepted at the discretion of the committee.

ELW HYMNAL DONATIONS

If you would like to donate one of the new ELW hymnals for \$25 each, please write Memorial Fund, your name, and information (in honor or memory of someone or presented by) on an envelope with your \$25 enclosed and place it in the offering plate or mail it to the church office. A bookplate will be placed inside the front cover of a hymnal.

**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 farmer's market.

**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.



RINGTOWN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN FUND

Pledge monies received to date \$195,138

Our pledge total is now \$294,060, toward our \$300,000 goal! There's still time to make a pledge! Please contact the church office for a pledge card.

The Ringtown Church Council has set up a "Capital Campaign Fund" with the goal of moving forward toward a new church building. "Capital Campaign" envelopes are available in the pew if you would like to make a contribution toward this building project. Member envelopes are in the SS area near the 2023 offering envelopes. Please pick yours up today. If you deliver envelopes to a neighbor, please put them in a bag on their doorknob, not in their mailboxes.

ST. JOHN'S HELPING HANDS CARD SALE

Just a reminder about the ongoing card sale sponsored by St. John's Helping Hands. Get Well, Sympathy, Birthday, and All Occasion cards are available. If you are interested in cards, please see Eileen Teter.

2023 FLOWER & BULLETIN CHARTS

...are in the narthex. If you would like to provide flowers or bulletins for any Sunday in 2023, please specify which one you are providing, flowers or bulletins.

Bulletin prices: regular Sundays \$5.00-B \$10.00-R
Christmas & Easter festivals \$10.00-B \$20.00-R

UPCOMING EVENTS

- 6-(1-3) Synod Assembly at Kalahari Resort
- 6-2 Rngtn Library Free Book Bingo & Food Sale at Sr. Citizens
- 6-3 BUSS Knoebels trip
- 6-7 3-5pm Mr. Sticky order pickup at St. John's, Rngtn
- 6-(16&17) St. Mary's block party
- 6-17 4pm-? Mt. Zion Strawberry Festival
- 6-(19-23) 6:30-8pm Vacation Bible School
- 6-24 4-7pm St. Paul's Community picnic
- 6-25 St. Mary's 100th Anniversary Celebration
- 7-9 4-7pm AMUMC Strawberry Social
- 7-14,15,16 Rngtn Library Book Sale at Sr. Citizens
- 7-15 Rngtn Yard Sale Day
- 7-23 11:30am-1:30pm St. John's Chicken BBQ
- 7-29 Library Softball tournament
- 7-30 4pm Brndvl Worship & Covered Dish picnic
- 8-6 4-7pm AMUMC Peach Social
- 8-13 10:30am Old White Church Joint Worship
- 8-18&19 4-9pm 24th Annual Town Social
- 8-26 6pm Annual Congregational Covered Dish picnic in St. John's, Rngtn pavilion
- 9-6 Rngtn Social Ministry dinner
- 10-7 11:30am-sellout AMUMC Soup Sale
- 10-14 11am-4pm 10th Annual Fall Festival
- 10-29 11:30am-1:30pm St. John's Chicken BBQ
- 7-(16-20)-2024 ELCA Youth Gathering in New Orleans
- Fire Company Breakfast - 2nd SUN, SEP-APR
- Fire Company Pizza Sales - 3rd FRI, SEP-MAY

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

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.

ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?

St. John's, Ringtown received \$1,556.00 in Choice Dollars in 2022.

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. These gift cards help purchase supplies for our events and add to the profits raised. You either qualify for 1 or 2 projects. If you are not sure, contact Thrivent to see if your products qualify. Organizations registered in our area are both St. John's, Brandonville and Ringtown and the Ringtown Area Library. You can direct Choice Dollars by going online to your account or calling 1-800-847-4836; press 1 and follow the directions. Your help is greatly appreciated!

CEMETERY REMINDER

Flowers, potted plants, floral arrangements, or other decorations on the cemetery must be removed within 14 days following each holiday or the cemetery caretaker has permission to remove them, especially during grass mowing season.