

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 4, 2024**

Those present were Joan Mensinger, Clarissa Geary, Gary Williams, Gary Schell, Janice Wasser, Tracy Laudeman, Jewel Tuberty, Wayne Mensinger, and Jim Hart. Also present were Pastor Phil and Marion Chupasco.

The meeting opened with Wayne Mensinger leading devotions. The minutes of the August meeting were read and approved. The treasurer's reports were reviewed and filed for audit.

Pastor Phil's and the office report were approved with updates to the times of the Election Day luncheon and bake sale.

Committee reports:

Town Social was very successful. The final profits weren't available yet but will be reported on as soon as everything is finalized. Wolk's are going out of business and has donated the French French fryer and bleenie fryer to us. We are very grateful for their years of service and for their donation. Marion will send a Thank you expressing our appreciation.

Helping Hands will hold a hoagie sale on September 18. The first fellowship luncheon will be held on Sunday, October 6 immediately following the service. Information will be provided on the Capital Campaign, sorting and cleaning out church items, and discussion on the new AED.

Property Committee wants to appoint a group to go through the church and separate what should be saved and what should be thrown away or taken by interested members. Wayne got a price on a dumpster. Gary Williams will check the dishwasher in the parsonage and probably shut off the water going into it. He also checked the outside light which seems to be working ok. Bob Decusky had Gladski's come look at the maple tree behind the parsonage. His opinion was that it should come down sooner rather than later. It is hollow and could possibly cause future problems. Cory Houser said since it has a lot of sentimental value that it's possible to save some of the wood to make a mantle or new Lenten cross that can be used in the new church,

Sunday School letters and invitations were sent out. Tracy reported that there were only 2 responses.

Old Business: Marion hung posters around the church advertising the new AED. God's Work Our Hands project was discussed. Clarissa has a practice AED that she will show and explain a little bit about it and hold a demonstration at the October 6 luncheon. Water meters were replaced, and Pen Tele Data updated the internet in the office. Congregational picnic low attendance was discussed. Those that did attend enjoyed the good food and fellowship. Schuylkill Choral group was contacted for a possible Christmas concert.

New Business: More worship leaders are needed. Christmas Eve was discussed. The chicken bbq is scheduled for October 20. \$14 for a full meal and \$8 for chicken only. Gary Schell said that someone expressed interest in filling the treasurer's position.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Joan Mensinger, acting secretary

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 3, 2024**

Members in attendance: Pastor Phil Smith, Bob Fritz, Debbie Kapusnick, Millie Krupilis, Georgette Herring, Marion Chupasco.

Secretary' Report: Approved as read.

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

Pastor's Report: Met with the family for baptism on September 15. On September 15 he will meet with First Communion students and parents at 1pm and Catechism students and parents at 1:30pm. Information is being sent to potential students. Nuremberg Labor Day Celebration went well and weather held out for events.

Office Report: Available for review.

Old Business: The Old White Church joint worship went well. The Joint Congregational Picnic was held on August 24, 6pm in the Ringtown lot. We may need to rethink this event due to low attendance. A thank you letter was sent to Linda Catizone for her years of dedication as our organist. Ashley Teter will not be able lead worship on Christmas Eve. Possibly using our worship leaders was discussed or requesting a supply pastor. There is concern about a supply pastor's travel distance in the event of weather issues and night travel. Wooden doors are still a work in progress. Office internet was upgraded at a cost of \$2/month increase. We are still in need of someone to serve as assistant treasurer.

New Business: Church Council elections are coming up in November. We will need to think about who to ask. There are 2 vacancies to be filled. The elevator enclosure construction will begin this week.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer
Marion Chupasco, acting 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 greeter 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.





CELEBRATING 90+ BIRTHDAY!

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

10-28 Donald Williams
PO Box 39
Ringtown, PA 17967

WORSHIP COMMITTEES FOR OCTOBER 2024

Brandonville

Altar- Kawa Family

Ringtown

Altar: Choir

Ushers: Bob & Judy Llewellyn

Communion Glass Usher: Joan Mensinger

Greeters: Volunteers



SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUN, OCT 6&20, NOV 3&17, 9:30am at Rngtn
Every 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. 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!**

A nursery class for 3-5yr olds may be offered during worship once or twice a month at Rngtn if there is enough interest.

BRANDONVILLE UNION SUNDAY SCHOOL HALLOWEEN PARTY

SUN, OCT 27, 4pm

Come & join us for a spooooooktacular time!

ST. JOHN'S, RINGTOWN "TRICK OR TREAT" NIGHT HOT CHOCOLATE STAND

THR, OCT 31, 6-8pm

We are once again sponsoring a hot chocolate stand and donations of snack size candy would be appreciated. You are also invited to join us in front of the church to hand out your "treats" and share a hooooowling good time!

FIRST COMMUNION w/RECEPTION SUN, OCT 13

All members in 1st grade or those who have not yet received and have completed the class will receive their First Communion that day. There will be a reception following worship.

RINGTOWN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS!

Pledge monies received to date: \$251,465 toward the \$300,060 goal

"Capital Campaign" envelopes are available in the pew if you would like to make a contribution toward this building project. We continue to ask you to prayerfully consider how you might help contribute financially to our Capital Campaign as we move forward in our new church building project. Help make our ministry happen!

RINGTOWN BIBLE STUDY OCT 13&27, NOV 10&24, DEC 8&22

...9:15am in the nursery room. We will meet twice a month and will discuss "Seamless", a 7 session book, beginning with the Old Testament. See Laura Faust for more information. High School to Adults welcome.

FELLOWSHIP LUNCH & INFORMATION SESSION Sunday, October 6 immediately after the service

Helping Hands and Church Council welcome you to our first "Fellowship Lunch". We will gather immediately after the service in the basement for a lunch of soup and sandwiches. There is no charge for the meal but donations for the Community Food Bank will be accepted. A signup sheet is on the table in the back so we can anticipate how many we will be serving.

Following our meal, we will hear from the Capital Campaign regarding the fundraising status thus far. The building committee and church council will present updates on our progress as we begin the building process. We will discuss our plans for what we will move into the new church and what we will be discarding.

Additionally, we will have our new AED defibrillator on hand for demonstration and practice on a mannequin as well.

Please join us as we ramp up the excitement of our next steps toward our new church and share food and fellowship with our brothers and sisters in Christ!

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

ST. JOHN'S, RINGTOWN CHICKEN BBQ

SUN, OCT 20, 11:30am-1:30pm

...in the pavilion – takeout only

\$14-each meal \$8-½ chicken only

meal includes: 1/2 BBQ chicken, baked potato, vegetable, cole slaw, roll & butter, dessert See church council for tickets.

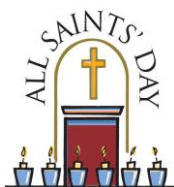
Signup sheet to provide cookies for dessert is on the SS area table.

BOSCOV'S

"FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS" EVENT

TUE, OCT 22

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



ALL SAINTS SUNDAY SUN, NOV 3

During worship that day we will remember those from our parish who have died in the past year. As their names are read, a candle will be lit in each person's memory and the church bell tolled. In addition, the Paschal Candle will be lit in memory of all our loved ones as their names are shared out loud by the congregation. This is a day to celebrate and remember our loved ones who have entered the Church Triumphant.

ELECTION DAY LUNCHEONS & BAKE SALES TUE, NOV 5

at St. John's, Brandonville... 11am-sellout
sponsored by Brandonville Union Sunday School
(pre-order quarts of soup)

at St. John's, Ringtown... 11am-6pm
sponsored by Helping Hands
4-6pm dinner available: Mac & Cheese or
Ham, Mac & Cheese, & green bean platter
available till sellout

Your donations of baked goods will be appreciated. In addition to baked goods, soup, hot dogs, BBQ, and other luncheon items will be available.

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.

LA CASITA DE FAMILIA RESTAURANT

GIFT CERTIFICATE 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.

CEMETERY ASSOCIATION OFFERING ENVELOPES

Cemetery Association offering envelopes are now available in the pew pockets and on the SS area table for your use if you would like to help with cemetery maintenance, upkeep, and finances.

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.

ST. JOHN'S, RINGTOWN CEMETERY ASSOCIATION FUNDRAISER

5inch Family Tree Ornament \$10 (apprx 10 names)
12inch Family Tree Wall Hanger \$35 (apprx 20 names)
Order forms are on the SS area table at Ringtown along with sample pictures of each. All orders to be prepaid: No personal checks. Cash or Money Order made out to: CASH. Rentschlers is also taking orders.

2024 FLOWER & BULLETIN CHARTS

...are in the narthex. If you would like to provide flowers or bulletins for any Sunday in 2024, 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

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 Shirley Troy.

ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?

So far this year we have received \$1,324 in Choice Dollars. 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!

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 & HELPING HARVEST

2nd SAT of month, 9-11am at Ringtown
3rd SAT of month, 9-11am, FEB, APR, JUN, AUG, OCT, DEC at Nuremberg
4th FRI of month 2-3:30pm Helping Harvest at Ringtown
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 to purchase cards for \$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.

NOTE: REDNERS TAPES OLDER THAN 3 YEARS ARE REJECTED.

UPCOMING EVENTS

10-3 St. Mary's Shoo-fly pie \$9 or crust \$3 order deadline for 10-8 pickup, 10am-12noon Call 570-889-3850 to order.
10-5 11:30am-1:30pm AMUMC Soup & Bake Sale
10-20 11:30am-1:30pm St. John's Chicken BBQ pickup
10-22 Boscov's Day
10-27 4pm BUSS Halloween Party
10-(25-27) Boy Scout's Haunted Barn
10-31 6-8pm Ringtown Trick or Treat night & St. John's hot chocolate stand
11-5 Election Day Luncheons&Bake Sales
B-11am-5pm R-11am-6pm
11-9 4-7pm Mt. Zion Ham & Chicken Dinner
Adults \$15 Children 12&under \$7
11-27 6pm Community Thanksgiving Eve worship at St. Mary's
12-1 4pm BUSS Christmas program
12-8 7pm St. Paul's Hanging of the Greens
12-21 4-7pm Ringtown Library Winter Solstice Luminary Walk at the Union Township trail Luminary deadline is DEC 16
Luminary sponsorship is \$10 each
Fire Company Breakfast-2nd SUN, OCT-APR
Pizza Sales-3rd FRI,OCT-MAY

YOUR SISTER'S CLOSET

The YSC shop is open TUE & THR from 11am to 5pm, and SAT from 10am to 2pm. "Your Sister's Closet" is available to help women in need with clothes and a lot more. Volunteer help is always needed. Call Donna or Peggy. The office cell phone is 570-487-9977. Like their Facebook page for events, news and YSC updates!

