

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR APRIL 7, 2025

Council members present Wayne Mensinger, Bob Decusky, Bruce Hart, Gary Williams, Jerid Lindenmuth, Sandy Hart, Jim Hart, Tracy Laudeman, Laura Faust, Jewel Tuberty, Joan Mensinger, and Cory Houser. Also present were Pastor Smith, Marion Chupasco, Clarissa Geary. The meeting was opened with Jim Hart reading the devotions. Minutes from last month were read and approved.

Treasurer report was reviewed, approved, and filed for audit.

Pastor's report: Billy Jo Grohol sent sermons to Pastor Smith to be reviewed. Pastor Smith and Marion continue to work on church business. Pastor Smith has a wonderful time helping and working with our Church.

Office report was reviewed. Marion added a few more events.

Committee Reports:

Helping Hands- Pork and Sauerkraut dinner is Saturday April 26th. Also, May 7th will be a hoagie sale. During elections on May 20th soups and other items will be available in the basement of the Church.

Sunday School- Easter Egg hunt will be held this coming Sunday. There were 14 rsyps so far.

Building & Maintenance- Joseph logged 7 hours this past month. He continues to do a great job. Council approved Joseph for vacation. There will be a Building Committee meeting on April 16th. Gary Williams brought up an issue with the middle garage door. Jim Hart took the old refrigerator and received \$50 for the Church from PPL.

Old Business:

The LLM program was discussed. Chicken BBQ dates are set. No issues were found with the organ.

New Business:

Supply pastors are set up until the end of May. Baptisms are set as well. Bruce Hart received letter expressing no change in the Workman's Comp Proxy statement. Clarissa Geary is considering taking over as financial recorder with help from Bob Llewellyn. Lynn will be playing on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday. Pastor Albers is going to discuss the LLM program with both church councils on a Zoom meeting April 24th at 6pm. Synod Assembly at Christ Hamilton United Lutheran Church will be held on May 30 & 31. The council is looking for delegates to send. Gary Schell would like to have a Thrivent informational meeting on May 18. We need to set up a Town Social meeting. We have some people interested in playing music at the event. April 27th at 3:00pm is a Mission District meeting at St. Johns, St. Johns.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Jerid Lindenmuth, secretary



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES FOR APRIL 1, 2025

Members In Attendance: Pastor Phil Smith, Marie Clark, Millie Krupilis, Pat Krupilis Joe Cocco, Donna Anthony, Ann Layton, Georgette Herring, Marion Chupasco

Secretary's Report: Approved as read.

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

Pastor's Report: Pastor Phil and Marion have been working very well together during the pastoral vacancy. The drive by imposition of ashes on Ash Wednesday went well. Billie Jo Grohol has submitted her sermons to Pastor Phil for his review. The Emmanuel church spaghetti dinner in Nuremberg and the Mt. Zion hoagie sale were a success. Pastor Phil met with a family for an upcoming baptism.

Office Report: Available for review. The Sunday school will have its Seder meal on 04/06/2025 following the church service. The election luncheon and bake sale will take place on 05/20/2025. There are chicken BBQ dinners scheduled for 07/21/2025 and 10/19/2025.

Old Business: The elevator has been repaired.

New Business: We will have a supply pastor for Easter Sunday, 04/20/2025 and one for 04/27/2025. In May we will have supply pastors for the 11th and the 25th. Pastor Jira Albers is willing to do a joint council Zoom meeting to go over the LLM program. The proposed dates are 04/22/2025 or 04/24/2025. Synod Assembly will take place 05/30/2025 and 05/31/2025. This is either in person or via zoom. Georgette Herring and Heather Fritz have signed the necessary papers at the bank as the co-treasurers. There is a Synod mission district meeting scheduled for April 27, 3:00 p.m. at St. John's, St. John's. The annual Brandonville congregational covered dish picnic held at the Sekula pavilion is scheduled for 07/27/2025 at 4:00 p.m.

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

PRAYER FOR OUR PASTORAL VACANCY

Gracious God, as we prepare to call a new pastor, may we count on the support and prayers of our members just as we trust your Spirit to guide us. During this time of pastoral vacancy, we pray for patience through the call process, that when your time is right, you will lead us to our new pastoral leadership. We pray that you would keep us strong in our faith and worship life; and we thank you for blessing us with supply pastors, and worship leaders. As pastoral candidates review our ministry profile, we pray for them and their families. We ask that you would be with them as they prayerfully consider their decision to accept our call. We ask that you work through our Call Committee and guide them in their duties; give them wisdom in choosing a pastor to lead us into the future and an exciting new chapter in our life of faith and ministry. All this we ask in your Holy name. Amen

PASTORAL CONTACT INFORMATION

In the event of a pastoral emergency, please call Pastor Phil Smith, visitation pastor, 570-384-3645, the church office 570-889-5203 or Marion Chupasco 570-889-3393; and she will contact pastoral coverage.

PASTOR'S PAGE

The Pastor's Page is provided by Pastor Philip Smith who is our visitation pastor during the pastoral vacancy. He will take care of hospital visits, weddings, funerals, First Communion, Catechism, pre baptismal meetings, etc.

SOCIAL MINISTRY "PERSONAL CARE KIT" PROJECT

The Social Ministry Committee will continue our project of assembling Personal Care Kits for Lutheran World Relief during the Lenten and Easter seasons. In these times when people are fleeing their homes for reasons of personal safety, famine, natural disasters, etc, Personal Care items are rarely taken with them. These kits provide much needed self-care items and the chance to regain dignity.

The following items can be dropped off at the church or you can make a monetary donation for the purchase of these items. Please designate for care kits. **DEADLINE: MAY 18**

- 1 Lightweight, dark colored bath towels
- 2 Bath size bars of soap (no mini bars)
- 3 Adult size toothbrush
- 4 Sturdy combs (no fine tooth or pocket)
- 5 Metal nail clippers

Please be generous as we assist our neighbors in need. Your hands doing God's work.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SUN, MAY 11, 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!**

RINGTOWN BIBLE STUDY MAY 11 9:15am

...in the nursery room. We will meet twice a month and will discuss "Seamless", beginning with the Old Testament. See Laura Faust for more information. High School to Adults welcome. We will meet in May and then start up in the fall.

RECOGNITION OF GRADUATES SUN, MAY 11

If you know any member who is graduating or has graduated from high school, college, or other schools during the year, please contact the church office with their name so they can be included in this year's recognition.



CELEBRATING 90+ BIRTHDAY!

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

5-8 Marie Trexler
224 Arch St.
Ringtown, PA 17967

HELEN ROULIN SCHOLARSHIP Deadline: before 5-4

All Ringtown Valley high school girls grades 9-12 are eligible and encouraged to apply. Scholarships are awarded on the basis of community involvement rather than scholastic aptitude, academics, or athletics. Call the church office for an application 570-889-5203.

HELPING HANDS ITALIAN HOAGIE SALE WED, MAY 7

Pickup 4:30-6:30pm

Funds raised to help setup kitchen in new church.

THRIVENT INFORMATION LUNCHEON SUN, MAY 18

...following worship at Rngtn All are welcome to attend to learn more about Thrivent products, programs, how to direct your Choice Dollars, applying for a Thrivent Action Team card, what type of events or activities qualify, and how to use your Thrivent seed money card. Any questions, see Gary Schell. Signup sheet is on the SS area table to give us an idea how much food to prepare.

ELECTION DAY LUNCHEON & BAKE SALE TUE, MAY 20

...11am-5pm at St. John's, Brandonville, sponsored by the Brandonville Union Sunday School (pre-ordered pints & quarts of soup available)
...11am-2pm at St. John's, Ringtown, sponsored by St. John's Helping Hands (our famous meatball subs available)

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

MR. STICKY'S STICKY BUN SALE pickup JUN 4, 3:30-5:30pm

...sponsored by St. John's, Rngtn Think Tank Readers on the Grow program. Signup sheets are on the SS area table.
Cost: \$4/single \$22/half doz **Deadline: May 25**

**ANNUAL ASCENSION DAY SERVICE
at THE OLD WHITE CHURCH**

THR, MAY 29, 10am

w/luncheon following at Sr. Citizen bldg

**MON, MAY 19, 9am – Old White Church cleaning day
Volunteers needed to help!**

OWC OPEN: 12-2pm SUN, MAY 25 & MON, MAY 26

**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 MEMORIALS

DEADLINE: MAY 18

If you would like to remember someone for Memorial Day, a signup sheet is on the bulletin board at Brndvl and the SS table at Rngtn. Funds go toward upkeep of the cemetery and will be in the May 25th bulletin.

BRANDONVILLE UNION

SUNDAY SCHOOL

KNOEBEL'S TRIP

SAT, JUN 7, 10am Meet at pavilion 3

VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL

JUN 16-20, 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 1.** Forms are on the kitchen counter at Brndvl and by the bulletins at Rngtn.

RINGTOWN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS!

Pledge monies received to date: \$272,385 toward the \$300,060 goal.

Please submit your pledges to help reach our 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!

2025 FLOWER & BULLETIN CHARTS

...are in the narthex. If you would like to provide flowers or bulletins for any Sunday in 2025, 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

WORSHIP COMMITTEES FOR MAY 2025

Brandonville

Ringtown

Altar: Clarissa Geary, Tracy Laudeman

Ushers: Bob & Judy Llewellyn

Communion Glass Usher: Volunteer

Greeters: Volunteers

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.

**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.

UPCOMING EVENTS

5-1 2-7pm Rotary blood drive at AMUMC

5-7 4:30-6:30pm Helping Hands Hoagie order pickup

5-18 5-7pm St Paul's Ice Cream Social

5-20 Election Day Luncheons & Bake Sales

11am-5pm-B 11am-2pm-R

5-25 & 26 12-2pm Old White Church open

5-29 10am Annual Ascension Day Service at the Old White Church
w/luncheon following at Sr. Citizen bldg

5-30-31 Synod Assembly at Christ Hamilton

Lutheran Church, Stroudsburg

6-4 3:30-5:30pm Mr. Sticky sticky bun order pickup

6-7 BUSS Knoebels day

6-16 to 20 6:30-8pm Vacation Bible School

6-21 The Loop, Ringtown Library

7-13 4-7pm AMUMC Strawberry Social

7-18,19,20 Library Book Sale 7-19 Yard Sale Day

7-26: Ringtown Library Softball Tournament

7-27 St. John's Chicken BBQ

7-27 4pm Brndvl Worship & Covered dish picnic at Sekula pavilion

8-3 AMUMC 155th Anniversary

8-10 4-7pm AMUMC Peach Social

8-15&16 4-9pm 26th Annual Town Social

8-24 Rotary Pig Roast at twp bldg.

9-3 3:30-5:30pm Social Ministry Dinner

9-4 2-7pm Rotary blood drive at AMUMC

10-4 11:30am-2pm AMUMC Annual Soup Sale

10-19 St. John's Chicken BBQ

Fire Company Breakfast-3rd SUN, OCT-APR

Pizza Sales-3rd FRI, OCT-MAY

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. 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!

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.