ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 2, 2025

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

Treasurer reports were reviewed, approved, and filed for audit. Motion was made to donate \$100 to the Ringtown Fire Company.

Pastor's report: Pastor Smith and Marion Chupasco continue to work on church business. Strawberry Festival to be held at Mt. Zion Church on June 21st. Pastor Smith is working on the upcoming Weikel baptism and wishes the Church all the best with the pastoral candidate.

Office report was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Helping Hands – Hoagie sale will be September 17th. Smokey Hollow Winery event will be held Oct. 4th and 5th. Also, November 15th a Pasta Dinner will be held. Between the April and May fundraisers Helping Hands has raised \$4,600.

Building Committee – Kitchen steps were fixed by Wayne Mensinger and they look great. New church building project was discussed.

Town Social- Laura Faust ordered a bounce house. Job johnny is booked. Entertainment was discussed. Cooler will be hooked up and refrigerator in the garage cleaned and shelves put in. Parsonage was discussed.

Old Business:

Synod Assembly was last weekend. The meet and greet for the pastoral candidate will be this Saturday.

New Business:

Supply pastors set for July. Discussed pastor salary package. Schuylkill Choral Society Christmas concert will be scheduled. Boy Scouts approved for the Pinewood Derby on Jan. 17th and 18th. Also, March 7th and 8th they will need the hall for the Blue & Gold banquet. The council approved both events.

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

Remember your church this month......



ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 3, 2025

Members In Attendance: Pastor Phil Smith, Bob Fritz, Marie Clark, Millie Krupilis, Pat Krupilis, Donna Anthony, Georgette Herring, Marion Chupasco

Secretary' Report: Approved as read.

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

Pastor's Report: Pastor Phil met with the Weikel family regarding a baptism and Jeff Ziolko regarding the LLM program. The Ascension Day service went well. The Synod Assembly went well. Sunday 06/08/2025 Emmanuel, Nuremberg will be hosting an event to celebrate 150 years. There will be a community yard sale in Nuremberg June 14th. The Strawberry Festival will be held June 21st at Mount Zion Church.

Office Report: Available for review.

Old Business: Still checking into refinishing altar ware. A Meet and Greet has been scheduled for June 7th with the pastoral candidate. A Thrivent card will be used to get some finger foods and people can bring snacks.

New Business: We will have supply pastors for June 15th and the 29th. Jeff Ziolko will lead the service on June 22nd. There is a supply pastor scheduled for July 13th. Council has received a letter of resignation from Joe Cocco. Marion will send a letter of thank-you to him for his service on church council. We are currently down two council members.

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



TIME & TALENTS

Time & Talent forms for the upcoming 2025-2026 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, email 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!

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

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

Treasurer reports were reviewed, approved, and filed for audit.

Pastor's report: Pastor Michelle is working on getting used to the weekly routine here at the church. It was a learning period for her this month. She has a list of shut ins and will start visiting them soon. At the end of September Pastor Michelle will be finished with her financial leadership academy. She thought of forming a group here at the church in association with the financial leadership concept. This committee would look at funding, implementation of programs, etc. Pastor Michelle also discussed forming a mutual ministry committee.

Office report was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Helping Hands – The committee would like to add a baked potato to the town social this year. Hoagie Sale will be Sept. 17th. There were two donations given by both Donna Sherakas for press n seal and Gladys Rentschler for roasters. Jewel brought to the attention that tables need to be kept clean downstairs when other organizations use them.

Building Committee – Insurance was discussed. Parsonage discussed. The annual report was filed by Bruce Hart. Discussion was made on putting the final touches on the walk in cooler. Building project was discussed.

Town Social- Wayne has the entertainment booked for Friday and Saturday. Joan put ad letters out to local businesses. Gary Schell expressed that he needs help selling tickets this year. Tracy got the wrist bands for the bounce house. We discussed the cost for an all-day bounce house pass and we decided on \$6.

Old Business:

Schuylkill County Choral Society Christmas concert is set for Dec. 14th. PA Annual Report was filed.

New Business:

A thank you card was received from Jamie and Kali and it was read to the council. There was a letter of transfer received for Judy and Bill Rudolph. Marion got approval from the council to send out thank you cards to the supply pastors. A Town Social meeting will be decided in the upcoming days. Chicken bbq dinner discussed.

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

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

Members In Attendance: Pastor Michelle Beissel, Pastor Phil Smith, Marie Clark, Millie Krupilis, Pat Krupilis, Donna Anthony, Ann Marie Layton, Marion Chupasco

Secretary' Report: Approved as read Treasurer's Report: Available for review and sent to audit.

Pastor's Report: Congratulations and welcome to Pastor Michelle Beissel. Pastor Phil did conduct services at Shenandoah Manor on the 3rd Monday of the month. Pastor Craig Zimmerman filled in for Pastor Phil while he had vacations days. Pastor Phil did return the church key to Marion. Pastor Phil wished us success with our new pastor.

Office Report: Available for review.

Old Business: We cancelled the supply pastor scheduled for July 13th. The Schuylkill Chorus Christmas concert is scheduled for December 14th at 3:00 p.m. A thank-you letter was sent to Joe Cocco.

New Business: We need to file the PA Annual Report. This is a work in progress. We will be sending out thank-you letters to all the supply pastors for their time and service.

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



PASTOR MICHELLE'S INSTALLATION SERVICE SUN, SEP 21, 4pm, at St. John's, Rngtn

Please join us as we gather to celebrate the Service of Installation for the Rev. Michelle Beissel as pastor of St. John's Lutheran Church, Ringtown and St. John's Lutheran Church, Brandonville. A Covered Dish dinner will follow and you are asked to bring a covered dish as suggested by the first letter of your last name, a meat will be provided.

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

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR AUGUST 4, 2025

Council members present were Wayne Mensinger, Tracy Laudeman, Bob Decusky, Bruce Hart, Cory Houser, Gary Williams, Jim Hart, Laura Rusinko, Jewel Tuberty, Joan Mensinger, and Pastor Michelle. Also present were Marion Chupasco, Clarissa Geary, and Nancy Terry. The meeting opened with Tracy Laudeman leading devotions. Nancy Terry reported on repair and painting work to be done at the Old White Church and requested permission to hire Evans Painting to do the work. Minutes from last month's meeting were read and approved.

Treasurer's reports were reviewed, approved, and filed for audit.

Pastor's report: 5 Sunday services including one bringing in new members, 5 meetings including church council, Social Ministry, OWC, and Helping Hands. 2 new member meetings, 2 meetings with other pastors, 9 home and hospital visits, and 1 Racial Justice Team. Pastor Michelle would like to begin Bible Study meetings in September. 1st Communion and Confirmation meetings will be held in September. Members are encouraged to sign up for Snack and Chats. Pastor also reported that our new Bishop's Associate is Ken Melber.

Office report was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Helping Hands: Cancelled baked potatoes for Town Social. A fellowship luncheon is scheduled for September 28.

Town Social: Final planning meeting will be held on Thursday, August 7. Bounce house will be set up Friday afternoon and help is needed.

Building: Building project discussed. Gary reported that installation of the outside cooler has been completed with help and donation of time and materials by Gary, Dave Thompson, and Bobby Pitsko. Council expressed their appreciation to Gary for the time and effort he put into the project and Marion will send thank you cards to Dave and Bobby. Gary also fixed the clock in the rear of the church.

Old Business: Thank you notes were sent to supply pastors. Joan reported a profit of \$3,051 from the chicken bbq. Wayne is still checking on insurance. Discussed the possible sale of the parsonage. Pastor Michelle was given names to contact that may be willing to serve on Financial Leadership Team. Judy Llewellyn agreed to head the Mutual Ministry Committee. Pastor also mentioned giving an update each Sunday on the progress to get people excited about the new church.

New Business: OWC joint service will be Sunday, August 10. Grace Trutt will record music since we won't have an organist. A motion was made to place a \$100 ad in Emmanuel Lutheran Church's 150th anniversary booklet. Pastor Michelle would like to try a Breakfast with a Bible on a Saturday morning and would also like to try a once a month lunch with the Pastor. Pastor Michelle's installation was scheduled for Sunday, September 21. Helping Hands will provide a meat and members will bring a covered dish for a meal to follow the service. Pastor would also like to schedule a separate meeting with council on October 20th at 6p.m. too discuss future goals. Due to Labor Day, the council meeting, the meeting for September will be on Wednesday, September 3, 6 p.m.

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

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES FOR AUGUST 5, 2025

Members in Attendance: Pastor Michelle Beissel, Millie Krupilis, Pat Krupilis, Marie Clark, Bob Fritz, Georgette Herring, Marion Chupasco

Secretary's Report: Approved as amended.

Treasurer's Report: The report was available for review and sent to audit.

Pastor's Report: The annual worship service and covered dish picnic went well. Everyone enjoyed the time together and had fun. Pastor Michelle led two council meetings. She has met with two other pastors from the area and attended a racial justice team meeting. She is planning a Bible study and has scheduled snack and chat meetings. Please sign up for one of them. Pastor Ken Melber has been appointed the Bishop's Associate. Pastor Carl Sheinkwhiler has resigned. Yehiel Curry has been elected as the new ELCA Presiding Bishop. Pastor Michelle has asked everyone to keep him in our prayers as he transitions into his new role.

Office Report: The report was available for review. The Sunday School Christmas program will be held on December 7th at 4:00 p.m.

Old Business: Communion Ware: discussed **Pastoral thank-you notes:** The thank-you notes were sent. We also received responses that have been posted for everyone to read. **Articles of Incorporation:** Pastor Michelle has reached out to someone to assist us with working on this process.

New Business: The joint worship service at the Old White Church will be held on Sunday August 10th at 10:30 a.m. Billie Jo Grohol has reported that the LLM program is going well. She will be attending a retreat in October and then finish up with the remainder of the program. Emmanuel Lutheran Church will be celebrating its 150th anniversary on September 14th at 10:30. A banquet will follow the service. A motion was made to donate 50.00\$ to the patron book. Pastor Michelle asked if we would be interested in a breakfast with the Bible. She has presented the idea of lunch with the pastor at a local restaurant. Pastor Michelle's installation service is scheduled for September 21st. The time will be around 3:30-4:00 p.m. This will be a covered dish event. Helping Hands will provide the meat. Members from both churches will be involved. Following the snack and chat meetings with the congregations, Pastor Michelle wants to meet with the council to develop goals as a church. We have scheduled this for October 14th at 6:30 p.m. There are members who have expressed an interest in a Christmas preparation service. This is a fun way to decorate the church for the Christmas season. The service would take place on November 30th. We will work with and coordinate the service with the Sunday school.

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



Thank You...

St. John's Family

Thank you so much for the generous gift, the use of the tables, and hosting our ceremony. It was truly a lovely and meaningful experience to be married there. Also, a special thank you to the Helping Hands Committee for the wonderfully memorable rehearsal dinner. Everyone had a delightful time and the food was delicious. We are also very grateful for Marion's coordination efforts throughout this whole process. We are glad to call St. John's, Ringtown congregation our home. Peace Always

Jamie & Kali Anczarski

Ringtown Vacation Bible School

Thank you for your VBS Mission Project monetary donations along with matching funds for a total donation of \$190 to the Ringtown Area Library. The funds will be used to support summer programs for kids at the Library.

With many thanks, Tanya Savitsky, Library Director

St. John's

Thanks for remembering me with the stuffed Easter basket of goodies. It was really tasty. Also thanks for the cards, prayers, and well wishes on my recovery, it is greatly appreciated.

Nellie Faust

...to those who participated in the Brandonville Union Sunday School day at Knoebels and shared delicious food, goodies, fun, and fellowship.

...to everyone who attended the Brndvl Worship & Covered Dish Picnic and shared worship, fellowship, fun, & plenty of food! Special thanks to those who provided the covered dishes and those who helped coordinate this event.

...to everyone who helped in any way with the Town Social. Your donations of items needed; time preparing, setting up, and working in stands; cleaning up; and your purchases and participation were appreciated.

...to St. John's, Brandonville & Ringtown

The Old White Church Preservation Committee would like to thank both congregations for the donation of plate offering from the Joint Communion Service on AUG 10 and the annual AUG appeal donations.

OLD WHITE CHURCH APPRECIATION OPEN HOUSE SUN, SEP 14, 2-4pm at the Old White Church ...to our many volunteers who give so generously of their time doing all the volunteer opportunities on the Time & Talent forms and the many other tasks no one knows are being done. A special thank you to all of our volunteers who have helped out in many ways during the pastoral vacancy-- from our church council members, worship volunteers (worship leaders, choir, ushers, communion assistants, readers, organists, acolytes, service recorders), Sunday School, dinner and event volunteers, cooks & bakers, office help, treasurers & financial recorders, janitors & cleaners, lawn & yardwork volunteers, repairs; your countless hours given. Each one of you who has stepped up and helped to keep things running smoothly. Too many to name! Please know that your time is greatly appreciated!

We are truly blessed. YOU make our ministry happen!

...to these Thrivent members who designated Choice Dollars to St. John's:

Brndvl: \$11 Kenneth Adam Estes

Rngtn: \$109 Ann Brown, Ronald Brown, Lee Grimes, Shelly Henninger, Cindy Zimmermann

...to all of our Thrivent members who have applied for Action Team cards to provide seed money to help fund all of our events.



SUNDAY SCHOOL SUN, SEP 7, 9:30am at Rngtn 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!**

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION SUN, SEP 14, 12:30pm at Rngtn

All members in 1st 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 14, 1pm at Rngtn

All 8th & 9th 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.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF SUN, SEP 14

We will install our Sunday School staff during morning worship.

HARVEST HOME SUN, SEP 21

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 If you would like to help decorate the altar area with garden goodies, please bring them by SAT, 12 noon.

BIBLE STUDY

...to begin MON, SEP 15, 11am at Rngtn

Bring your bible and a bag lunch or snack and join Pastor Michelle for a bible study about "the Bad Girls of the Bible". All are welcome to attend.

BREAKFAST WITH THE BIBLE

...to begin on the 1st SAT, October 4.

Watch your bulletin for details as plans are made.

HELPING HANDS ITALIAN HOAGIE SALE WED, SEP 17

...Pickup 3:30-6pm \$8 each Pre-order only Roll with provolone cheese, cooked ham, hard salami, & pepperoni Lettuce, onion, & tomato packaged separately. Includes mayo & Italian dressing packets. Funds raised benefit the new building kitchen. **Order deadline: SEP 10**

RINGTOWN FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON SUN, SEP 28

...following worship. Menu: Pulled pork sandwiches, Cheesy potato casserole, Broccoli salad, and Applesauce Donations for the food pantry are requested: Paper towels, Toilet paper, Paper plates, Paper bowls, Napkins, and Monetary donations. We will have an update on the new church building project. A signup sheet is available, but no one will be turned away.

HELPING HANDS EVENT SCHEDULE

Meeting September 9, 6pm Hoagie sale, September 17th Fall Festival at Smokey Hollow Winery October 4+5 Pasta Dinner November 15 Fellowship Lunch September 28, October 26, November TBD

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.

RINGTOWN CAPITAL CAMPAIGN NEWS!

Pledge monies received to date: \$278,164 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!

WORSHIP COMMITTEES FOR SEPTEMBER 2025 Brandonville

Altar: Joe Cocco & Donna Anthony

Ringtown

Altar: Janice Wasser

Ushers: Nancy Stauffer, Gary Williams Communion Glass Usher: Volunteer

Greeters: Volunteers

BOSCOV'S "FRIENDS HELPING FRIENDS" EVENT WED, 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.

ELECTION DAY LUNCHEONS & BAKE SALES TUE, NOV 4

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

at St. John's, Ringtown....11am-2pm sponsored by Helping Hands

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

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.

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

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

9-3 3:30-5:30pm Social Ministry Pork Chop Dinner 2 breaded pork chops, baked potato, veg, roll&butter, coleslaw, dessert

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

9-14 Emmanuel 150th Anniversary worship & banquet

9-14 2-4pm Old White Church open house

9-17 Helping Hands Hoagie Sale

9-28 & 10-26 Fellowship Luncheons at St. John's, Rngtn following worship

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

10-19 11:30am-1:30pm St. John's Chicken BBQ

10-25 10-12 St. Paul's Chili order pickup \$10 quart

11-4 Election Day Luncheons & Bake Sales

11-15 Helping Hands Pasta Dinner

11-26 7pm Community Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. Paul's

12-14 3pm Schuylkill Choral Society Ensemble concert

12-21 Ringtown Library Luminary Walk

1-17&18-2026 Boy Scout Pinewood Derby SAT setup SUN derby

3-7 & 8-2026 Blue & Gold Boy Scout banquet

SAT setup SUN 1pm banquet

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!



YOUR SISTER'S CLOSET

The YSC shop is open TUE & THR from 11am to 4pm, 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 Peggy. The office cell phone is 570-497-9977. Like their Facebook page for events, news and YSC updates!

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.

