

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN  
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR OCTOBER 6, 2025**

**Members present:** Jim Hart, Jerid Lindenmuth, Gary Williams, Pastor Michelle, Tracy Laudeman, Laura Rusinko, Wayne Mensinger, Bruce Hart, Joan Mensinger, and Sandy Hart. Also present were Marion Chupasco and Clarissa Geary. The meeting opened with Joan Mensinger reading the devotions.

**Treasurer reports** were read, approved, and filed for audit.

**Pastor's Report:** Worship services – 5 Sunday Services; Bible Studies 3, Meetings: 4 Councils (2) Helping Hands (2) also planned for Confirmation and First Communion, Meetings with other pastors – 1; North of the Mountain Youth Group met 9/28; Open House OWC; Snack and chats 1; Racial Justice Team – 1, Whites Confronting Racism; FLA - Final 3 day session; Webinars Church Economics; 4th quarter planning; Visits - home, hospital, etc. 12; FLA teams to begin in a couple of weeks, Vacation Oct 7-Oct 13; Lunch with the pastor Oct 15; Breakfast with the Bible Oct 18

**Office Report** was reviewed.

**Committee Reports:**

**Helping Hands-** \$1900 profit from the hoagie sale. The Fellowship lunch went well. The baked potatoes at the Fall Festival sold out. Potential new members.

**Town Social-** Jerid Lindenmuth gave pricing for new tickets. He is going to get quotes from another company or two. Pastor Michelle bought a small bounce house to be used for smaller children at the Town Social.

**Property & Maintenance:** Updates to blue prints discussed. Pastor Michelle brought up possible grants for the building project. The council will be getting a quote on a sprinkler system. It also may lower the insurance cost of the new church. Insurances discussed. Parsonage discussed.

**Sunday School-** Sunday school will take place every Sunday from 9:30am to 10:00 am with Clarissa Geary running it and Tracy Laudeman helping.

**Old Business:**

The council gave a donation for Emmanuel's 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Chicken BBQ is coming up and help is needed. Gary Williams cleaned out the garage, put the lights up, and new wheels on the hand carts. He also fixed the kitchen faucet.

**New Business:**

Pastor Michelle will be on vacation Oct. 7-13. Goals meeting Oct. 20<sup>th</sup>, 6pm. Boy Scouts requested permission to have Trunk or Treat. Council elections Nov. 23. It was approved to give Jeff Ziolkowski a \$1,000 scholarship for the LLM program. Harvest Home money was given to the food pantry.

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 OCTOBER 5, 2025**

**Members In Attendance:** Pastor Michelle Beissel, Bob Fritz, Marie Clark, Millie Krupilis, Pat Krupilis, Georgette Herring, Donna Anthony, Ann Marie Layton, Marion Chupasco

**Devotional:** Pastor Michelle read a verse from 1<sup>st</sup> Corinthians.

**Secretary's Report:** Approved as amended.

**Treasurer's Report:** Both August and September reports were available for review and sent to audit.

**Pastor's Report: worship services:** 5 Sunday services **Bible studies:** 2 **Meetings:** 4 council meetings, 2 Helping Hands, 2 planning meetings for Confirmation and First Holy Communion, 1 meeting with other pastors (Hazleton/Lehigh), North of the Mountain Youth Group met 09/28/2025, open house at the Old White Church, 1 snack and chat, 1 Racial Justice Team meeting (Whites Confronting Racism), Financial Leadership Academy (final three day session), webinars (church economics), 4th quarter planning meeting, visits (home, hospital, etc.) 12 The Financial Leadership Academy teams to begin in a couple of weeks.

**Vacation:** October 7th - October 13th. **Lunch with the Pastor** October 15th (Luna's Pizzeria in Ringtown at 12). **Breakfast with the Bible** October 18<sup>th</sup>, 9am at Dutch Kitchen.

**Office Report:** Available for review.

**Old Business: Altar Ware:** This continues to be a work in progress. We are looking at the Synod website for alternative options. **Articles of Incorporation:** Pastor Michelle is working on this process. **Hospitality Walk:** Pastor Michelle along with a couple of council will be doing this walk following our meeting today. **Installation Service/Reception:** The service and reception went well. A letter was sent to Emmanuel Lutheran to honor their 150<sup>th</sup> anniversary.

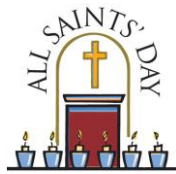
**New Business:** Pastor Michelle will be on vacation October 7th-13th. There is a goal meeting scheduled for October 14th at 6:30 p.m. **Church Council Elections:** There are two openings. Potential nominees were discussed. **Church Sign:** Bob Fritz is working on updating/correcting the sign out front with Pastor Michelle's name. **Fund Raisers:** working on information regarding pizzas. Pastor Michelle is working with a family regarding baptism.

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

**SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETINGS  
SUN, NOV 23**

...called by the church councils at Brandonville and Ringtown for the expressed purpose of electing church council members whose term would begin JAN 2026.





## ***ALL SAINTS SUNDAY*** ***SUN, NOV 2***

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.



## **SUNDAY SCHOOL** **SUN, 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!**

## **SOCIAL MINISTRY ENVELOPES**

Write your name and "St. John's Local Social Ministry" on an envelope and mail it to the church office or place it in the offering plate. Your donations in this envelope will be used for our local Social Ministry programs here at St. John's to provide gifts for our shut in members at Christmas and Easter, and for our other Social Ministry projects.



## **BIBLE STUDY** **MON, NOV 3, 10, 17, 24, 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". See Pastor Michelle for more information. All are welcome.

## **"Seamless"** **BIBLE STUDY** **SUN, NOV 9 & 23**

...9am in the nursery room. We will meet twice a month and continue discussing "Seamless". See Laura Rusinko for more information. High School to Adults welcome.

## **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.

## **CHRISTMAS POINSETTIA** **ORDER DEADLINE - NOV 12**

Forms are available on the SS table or bulletin stand.

## **HELPING HANDS PASTA DINNER** **SAT, NOV 15, 4-6:30pm**

...pickup in the church basement  
Penne Pasta with plain or meat sauce, salad, bread, dessert  
TICKETS \$11 PREORDER TAKE OUT ONLY

## **LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR** **WED, NOV 19, 12noon** **at Rngtn Luna's Pizza**

See Pastor Michelle for more information.

## **PUMPKIN, CHOCOLATE, OR BANANA** **ROLL ORDERS**

...signup sheet is on the SS area table or see Donna Sherakas.  
\$14 each – half the profit goes to Helping Hands.

## **“NORTH OF THE MOUNTAIN” YOUTH GROUP SCHEDULE**

The Lutheran Churches have formed a “North of the Mountain” youth group for kids 5<sup>th</sup> grade and up. The youth group will move meeting sites. 11-9, 5pm cookie baking at Christ United, Gordon. Watch for upcoming activities.

### **BREAKFAST WITH THE BIBLE SAT, NOV 22, 9am at the Dutch Kitchen in Frackville.**

Bring your bible. See Pastor Michelle for more information.  
Watch your bulletin for the next location.

### **THANKSGIVING EVE COMMUNITY WORSHIP WED, NOV 26, 7pm at St. Paul’s**

### **RINGTOWN FELLOWSHIP LUNCHEON SUN, NOV 30**

...following worship. A signup sheet will be available, but no one will be turned away.

Menu: meatball subs, potato salad, & cookies

**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.

### **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.

### **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.

### **WORSHIP COMMITTEES FOR NOVEMBER 2025**

#### **Brandonville**

Altar- Joe Cocco & Donna Anthony

#### **Ringtown**

Altar: Ann Brown, Joan Mensinger

Ushers: Tracy Laudeman & Joan Mensinger

Communion Glass Usher: Volunteer

Greeters: Volunteers

### **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!

### **UPCOMING EVENTS**

11-4 Election Day Luncheons & Bake Sales

B-11am-sellout R-11am-2pm

11-8 4-7pm Mt. Zion Ham & Chicken Dinner

Adults \$15 12yrs & under \$7

11-9 2pm Your Sisters Closet Fashion Show at Methodist Church

11-15 4-6:30pm Helping Hands Pasta Dinner pickup

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

12-7 4pm BUSS Christmas program

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

12-14 3pm Schuylkill Choral Society Ensemble Christmas concert at St. John’s

12-21 Ringtown Library Luminary Walk

Fire Company Breakfast-3rd SUN, OCT-APR

Pizza Sales-3rd FRI, OCT-MAY

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

## 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

2<sup>nd</sup> SAT of month, 9-11am at Ringtown

3<sup>rd</sup> SAT of month, 9-11am, FEB, APR, JUN, AUG, OCT, DEC  
at Nuremberg

4<sup>th</sup> 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.**

