

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN COUNCIL MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 14, 2026

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

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

Pastor's report: Regular Sunday Worship services - 5 (August has 5 Sundays), One was combined at OWC, One baptism Eulenna Klare Anczarski, Recorded Sermon for Synod - 1, Town Social August 14, 15, Burial of Time Capsule August 29. Meetings 5 One Council (Brandonville), One Council Ringtown, OWC, town social, worship and Music, Bishop's transition team meetings - 3, Bishop deForest's farewell and godspeed, Meetings with members in church or Community - 2, Visits - home, hospital, etc. 11 I was asked by the Synod to serve as Designated Pastor for Mindy Heppe's churches (Outwood and Jacobs)

Office Report was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Sunday School – Sunday school will be weekly now.

Building – Drawings for the new church were all approved. In two weeks they are bringing the lumber and will start building. Inspections all passed. Gary Williams fixed hot water heater and put a new belt on the lawnmower. Garage was not cleaned up from the Town Social.

Chicken BBQ - Bruce and Janice will be getting Thrivent cards for the event. The date was changed to Oct 18th.

Helping Hands – There were issues with kitchen clean up from the Town Social. We will make sure these issues are taken care for next year's cleanup. The door for the basement has been unlocked. A friendly reminder will be given to other organizations and members of our church to make sure it is locked.

Food Pantry – Around ten people showed at the last food pantry.

Old Business:

Discussed looking into new insurance. Laura has chicken bbq tickets to hand out.

New Business:

Nancy Terry is to take care of the historical display for the 100th Anniversary of the first worship service in the present building to be held on Reformation Sunday, October 25 with a dinner following worship. Display will be set up in the Sunday School area. Signup sheets will be put out to sign up for the dinner and to provide desserts. Chicken BBQ moved to Oct. 18th.

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

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE COUNCIL MINUTES FOR SEPTEMBER 1, 2026

No quorum for a business meeting.

ST. JOHN'S BRNDVL SPECIAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

St. John's Brndvl Church Council has called a special congregational meeting for SUN, OCT 11, for the expressed purpose of voting on the church council recommendation to amend our wedding policy to include same sex marriage in alignment with our Mission Statement "God accepts you as you are and so do we".



ST. JOHN'S, RNGTN 100TH ANNIVERSARY

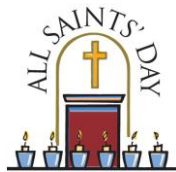
On Reformation Sunday, OCT 25, we will celebrate the 100th Anniversary of the first worship service held in the present church with a historical display in the Sunday School area at the back of the church and a dinner following worship.

Signup sheets are available for desserts and the dinner so we know how many to prepare for.

As we gather on Reformation Sunday to celebrate 100 years of worship in this building, we also remember the many other activities, celebrations, family events, traditions, the good and not so good times we experienced here. Please share a memory by completing a "Share a memory" card and return by SUN, OCT 18 and we will reminisce together at the OCT 25 luncheon. Cards will be available at the church. If you don't get a card you can still write your memory on a paper and mail it to the church.

Remember your church this month...





ALL SAINTS SUNDAY SUN, NOV 1

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.

BRANDONVILLE UNION SUNDAY SCHOOL HALLOWEEN PARTY SUN, OCT 18, 4pm

Come & join us for a spooooooktacular time!

ST. JOHN'S, RINGTOWN "TRICK OR TREAT" and "TRUNK OR TREAT" NIGHT HOT CHOCOLATE STAND SAT, OCT 31, 6-8pm

We are once again sponsoring a hot chocolate stand and donations of hot chocolate mix canisters, snack size candy, or monetary donations toward milk and supplies would be appreciated. You are also invited to join us in front of the church to hand out your "treats" and share a hoooooowling good time!

MONDAY BIBLE STUDY

...every MON, 11am at Rngtn

Bring your bible and a bag lunch or snack and join Pastor Michelle for a bible study. All are welcome to attend. Topic: Together by Grace Bible Conversations based on Matthew. Come join us!

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR. WED, OCT 21, 11am at Rngtn Luna's Pizza. Come join us!

BREAKFAST WITH THE BIBLE

...SAT, OCT 24, 9am at the Dutch Kitchen, Frackville.
Bring your Bible and join us!

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

SUN, OCT 11 & 25, 9am at Rngtn We will be studying "Matchless: the life and love of Jesus". Come join us!



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.

ST JOHN'S, RNGTN GOD'S GRACE FOOD PANTRY REQUESTS SAT, OCT 3, 9-11am

...for those who **do not qualify** for the local food pantry. Our food pantry is **to supplement, not provide a full monthly supply**. Your help is needed to help stock our pantry by filling our reusable blue bag with the list of items requested. Bags will be handed out on Sunday to be returned next Sunday and then refilled for the next week. Your help is appreciated to provide this outreach ministry to others. **Items requested this week: cereal, ketchup, salad dressing, pasta sauce, pet food (small bags), toilet paper, paper towels, napkins, tissues, cleaning products**

**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.

FIRST COMMUNION

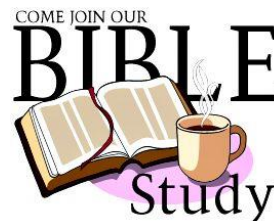
You can still register to attend.

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. Call the church office or Pastor Michelle for info.

CATECHISM MEETING SUN, OCT 4, 1pm at Rngtn

You can still register to attend.

All 8th & 9th grade members and those eligible who have not been confirmed yet are invited to attend. Call the church office or Pastor Michelle for info.



ST. JOHN'S, RNGTN CHICKEN BBQ SUN, OCT 18, 11:30am-1:30pm

...in the pavilion – takeout only **deadline: OCT 11**
\$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 WED, OCT 21

...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 3

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.

WORSHIP COMMITTEES FOR OCTOBER 2026 Brandonville Altar: Kawa Family

Ringtown
Altar: Joan & Wayne Mensinger
Ushers: Tracy Laudeman, Joan Mensinger
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.

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.

2026 FLOWER & BULLETIN CHARTS

...are in the narthex. If you would like to provide flowers or
bulletins for any Sunday in 2026, 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

FOOD PANTRY-REDNERS GIFT CARDS HELPING HARVEST

2nd FRI of month, 3-6pm at Ringtown
3rd SAT of month, 9-11am, FEB, APR, JUN, AUG, OCT, DEC at
Nuremberg

4th FRI of month 1:30-4pm 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. Please be sure to use your phone number or
Redners app so that your receipt shows “Save a tape” on it or it
is rejected.**

CEMETERY MANAGER JOB OPENING

If you are interested in this job opportunity, see the church
office.

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.

YOUR SISTER'S CLOSET

The YSC shop is open TUE & THR from 11am to 4pm,
FRI 5-7:30pm, 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!

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

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

10-3 11:30am-1:30pm AMUMC Annual Soup Sale pickup
 10-18 11:30am-1:30pm St. John's Chicken BBQ...takeout only
 10-18 4pm BUSS Halloween party
 10-25 St. John's, Rngtn 100th Anniversary of the first worship service held in the present church w/historical display & dinner following worship
 10-25 & 11-15 Fellowship Luncheons at St. John's, Rngtn after worship
 10-31 6-8pm St. John's, Rngtn "Trick or Treat" and "Trunk or Treat" night hot chocolate stand
 11-3 Election Day Luncheons & Bake Sales
 11am-sellout at B 11am-2pm at R
 11-14 10am-12noon St. Paul's Chili pickup \$12/quart order deadline: 11-1 call 570-889-3494 or 570-590-9572
 11-25 7pm Community Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. John's
 12-6 4pm BUSS Christmas program
 12-6 7pm St. Paul's Hanging of the Greens
 Fire Co Breakfast-3rd SUN, OCT-APR
 Pizza Sales-3rd FRI, OCT-MAY

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.

*in happy moments,
PRAISE GOD
in difficult moments,
SEEK GOD
in quiet moments,
TRUST GOD
in every moment,
THANK GOD*

ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?

You can direct your Choice Dollars by going online to your account or calling 1-800-847-4836; press 1 and follow the directions.

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. Your help is greatly appreciated!

BOXTOPS, SOUP, & TYSON PROJECT A+ LABELS FOR EDUCATION...The Box Tops for

Education program is going digital with a **new mobile app** which will allow parents to scan their store receipt and earn money for their kiddo's school! To earn Box Tops, just purchase products with the new Box Tops label, scan your receipt with the **new Box Tops app** (for **iTunes** or **Google Play**) and earn 10¢ per participating product. After the receipt is scanned, money will automatically be added to your school's earnings online. Note that **your receipts must be scanned within 14 days of purchase** but you can scan 50 receipts per day, per registered account. The mobile app will also allow you to track your contributions as well as your school's running total...at Rngtn for North Schuylkill Elementary and at Brndvl for Valley Elementary.

