

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 1, 2026**

Council members present were Wayne Mensinger, Janice Wasser, Bob Decusky, Pastor Michelle, Bruce Hart, Joan Mensinger, Jewel Tuberty, Jim Hart, Tracy Laudeman, Laura Rusinko. Also present were Marion Chupasco and Clarissa Geary. The meeting was opened with Jim Hart reading devotions. Minutes from last month were read and approved. Treasurer's reports were reviewed, approved, and filed for audit.

Pastor's Report: Regular Sunday Worship services - 5 in May, Ascension Day Service, Funerals 2 (Alice Jones, Evelyn Compton), Funeral prep sessions-2, Viewings 2 (Michael Bernotas, Sandi Hart), Recorded sermon for Synod-1, Meetings: Councils, congregational meeting (R), Synod Assembly prep, Confirmation-1 double session, lunch with pastors, Racial Justice Team meeting, Visits – home, hospital, etc.-12 Notes: Brandonville information session for the wedding policy vote will once again be rescheduled as it was canceled for a pastoral emergency. State Annual Reports are due this month. Continuing Ed – ELCA Rostered Leader's Gathering July 6-9 in Indianapolis, IN.

Office report was reviewed.

Sunday School: The last day of Sunday School was changed from May 17th to May 31st. Sunday School was asked to help with the Altar in September.

Chicken BBQ dinners are still going to be \$14. Jewel is going to do the tickets for July 26th.

Committee Reports:

Helping Hands: waiting until after the town social to move the range for cleaning and any repairs. \$2082 was made on hoagie sale and \$496 on the Election sale.

Town Social: Wayne booked entertainment for Friday and Saturday. Jerid is going to order the signs and we will have them put up before the yard sale. June 15th, 6pm is the town social meeting.

Building Committee: Wayne is looking into a new insurance company. Boiler was inspected. New building stamped approved for the drawings.

Social Ministry: send birthday cards to 90+ members, Spring-sent 14 gift cards to college & military, May-assembled Personal Care kits & blessed them on June 7th, SEP-Pork Chop dinner to cover projects

Food Pantry: will be this Saturday, June 6th.

Old Business: Still waiting on more people to sign up for emergency contact list.

New Business: Bear Creek camp: Looking into a point system for attendance for kids to show up for Sunday School, church, and help at events to keep the kids active in church. Smokey sent in his resignation for the Building Committee. Lindenmuth cemetery needs to be mowed. Bob Decusky is going to do this with his mower. \$100 donation will be given to the Fire Company and \$50 donation to Ringtown Recreation Loop 5K event. Pastor Michelle is looking into grants to help with the new church. Bob Decusky has devotions for July.

The meeting closed with the Lord's Prayer.
Tracy Laudeman, acting secretary

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JUNE 2, 2026**

Members In Attendance: Pastor Michelle Beissel, Marie Clark, Millie Krupilis, Pat Krupilis, Bob Fritz, Donna Anthony, Ann Marie Layton, Georgette Herring, Marion Chupasco Devotions were given by Pastor Michelle a prayer from St. Francis of Assisi.

Secretary' Report: Was approved as amended. Pastor Michelle will be on vacation 06/14/2026. Billie Jo Wetzel will lead worship.

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

Pastor's Report: Regular Sunday Worship Services (5), Ascension Day Service (1), Funeral Prep Sessions (2), Funerals (2), Viewings (2), Recorded a sermon for the Synod (1), Synod Assembly prep, Meetings (Councils, Congregational meeting Ringtown (1), Confirmation/double session (1), Lunch with the pastors, Racial Justice Team Meeting, Visits (home, hospital, etc.) (12) Note: Brandonville's information session for the wedding policy vote will once again be rescheduled as it was cancelled for a pastoral emergency. Pastor Michelle has asked to attend continuing education (ELCA Rostered Leader's Gathering) July 6th-9th in Indianapolis, Indiana.

Office Report: Available for review.

Old Business: Articles of Incorporation: Pastor Michelle is checking if there is an old incorporation. The Synod had nothing on file. **Altar ware:** Continues to be a work in progress. **Emergency Contact List:** Pastor Michelle is working on adding all the information into the app.

Projector/Screen: Pastor Michelle and Bob Fritz met with Tyler. Tyler is working on a proposal/price.

New Business: Wedding Policy: The information session has been rescheduled to 07/15/2026 at 6:30 p.m. **Bring a Friend to Sunday Worship:** This has been set for Sunday July 26th at 4:00 p.m. for our annual congregational worship service and picnic. During the winter season and bad weather we have been asked by the Sunday school to put up a yellow tape across the ramp entrance. The parking lot needs to be sealed. Bob Fritz will follow up. The wall tapestry pieces need to be laundered. Ann Marie Layton will check with Redner's Market regarding vouchers for a hoagie fund raiser.

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

Remember your church this month...



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JULY 16, 2026**

Council members present were Gary Williams, Deb Shoup, Jerid Lindenmuth, Jewel Tuberty, Bruce Hart, Jim Hart, Laura Rusinko, Janice Wasser, Joan Mensinger and Wayne Mensinger. Also present were 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: Regular Sunday Worship services- 4, Ground Breaking (Ringtown), (1 week Vacation) Baptism Sienna Nicole Norris, Recorded Sermon for Synod-1 Meetings 7 Councils, Building Committee, Helping Hands, Town Social Meeting, Old White Church meeting, VBS meeting, Confirmation (1), Synod Assembly June 4-6, VBS (taught adult class), Larger Synod Meetings - (I am now on five G, which meets with finance and the Bishop's transition committee), Racial Justice, Finance (five G), Bishops's transition team meeting, Meetings with members in church or community - 3, Visits - home, hospital, etc. 8 Notes: October 3 from 9-1 will be at a Generosity Training. It should be free for the churches and I would like to take a team from each church

Office Report was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Sunday School- Sunday School will be held the first, third, and fifth Sundays of every month.

Helping Hands- There will be a meeting on July 16th at 6pm to finalize plans for Sandy Hart's memorial dinner. There will be a 50th anniversary celebration for the Ringtown Senior Citizens. The celebration committee is looking for a donation of \$20-25 from our church. Fellowship luncheons will be held in October and November.

Town Social- A meeting was held in June. Everything seems to be in order. The entertainment is set and the bounce house is secured. Jerid Lindenmuth showed the signs that were designed by Jeff Ziolkko. Jerid will be putting them out this week. Nancy Terry will hold a craft activity with the kids during the Town Social.

Building Committee- The parking lot was milled in order to prep for construction of the new church. The parking lot will be able to be utilized for the Town Social. There was discussion about handicap parking. The Council will be deciding colors on the new church. Wayne presented a color and everyone on the council approved of it. Wayne has been working on different insurance groups for liability and fire. Jerid Lindenmuth weed whacked the garden and will be seeding the garden with grass seed.

Food Pantry- There were 7 to 8 people who came during the last food pantry. A list of supplies will be made for next time.

Old Business:

PA annual report was filed. Pastor Michelle is setting up a points system for children interested in Bear Creek camp. It will be based on a criteria system. The council agrees with this idea. Help will be needed to make coleslaw and wrap potatoes for the BBQ Chicken dinner. Bob Decusky mowed the Lindenmuth Family Cemetery on Aristes Road.

New Business:

The Ground Breaking Picnic Celebration was held. All went well. Wayne Mensinger and Dave Rumbel conducted the ringing of the bells on July 4th for the 250th Anniversary. Marion talked to Crossen-Savage about options for the organ in the new church. A thank you letter was read from the Ringtown Recreational committee for our support of the 5K race.

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

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR JULY 12, 2026**

Members In Attendance: Pastor Michelle Beissel, Marie Clark, Pat Krupilis, Donna Anthony, Ann Marie Layton, Marion Chupasco Devotions were given by Pastor Michelle. She read Psalm 100. This is a psalm of praise and thanksgiving to God. It reminds us who we are and who we belong to.

Secretary' Report: Approved as read.

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

Pastor's Report: Available for review. Regular Sunday worship services (4), Ground breaking (Ringtown), Vacation (1 week), Baptism (1), Recorded sermon for Synod (1), Meetings (7), Confirmation (1), Synod Assembly (June 4-6), Vacation Bible school (taught adult class), Larger Synod meeting (Finance Five G and and Bishop's transition team meeting), Racial justice, ELCA Rostered Leaders Gathering (July6-9), Meetings with members/community (3), Visits home, hospital, etc. (8)

Office Report: Available for review.

Old Business: Articles of Incorporation: Pastor Michelle, Bob Fritz, and Marion Chupasco have followed up with all possible avenues. Nothing was found. We need to do an Articles of Incorporation. The church was started March 28, 1929. When the church is incorporated, it will be its own entity. **Altar Ware:** This continues to be a work in progress.

Fundraisers: Redners has discontinued the hoagie coupons.

Projector/Screen: Quote (computer with enough memory/better playback) total 2,294.00\$ (this includes everything and installation). There is a CD drive for the lap top. Tyler will give support. **Wedding policy:** The meeting will be rescheduled for July 29th at 6:30 p.m. **Emergency**

contact list: This continues to be a work in progress. We will have the list available at the annual congregational picnic for any updates. **Parking lot sealing project:** Bob Fritz is obtaining quotes. **Annual congregational picnic/service:** The service and picnic will be on July 26th at 4:00 p.m. at the Sekula pavilion. This is also a bring a friend to church Sunday.

New Business: On October 3rd from 9:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. a Generosity Training is scheduled. It should be free for the churches. Pastor Michelle would like to take a team from each church.

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

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, RINGTOWN
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR AUGUST 3, 2026**

Council members present were Gary Williams, Deb Shoup, Jerid Lindenmuth, Jewel Tuberty, Bruce Hart, Jim Hart, Laura Rusinko, Janice Wasser, Joan Mensinger, and Wayne Mensinger. Also present were Pastor Michelle, Clarissa Geary, and Marion Chupasco. The meeting was opened with Jerid Lindenmuth 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 – 4, Brandonville worship and picnic, Continuing Ed in Indianapolis July 6-9, Funerals - 1 Sandi Hart, Attended - Rev. Mindy Heppes service, Recorded Sermon for Synod - 1, Meetings One Council (Brandonville), Wedding policy meeting Brandonville, OWC, Helping Hands (Ringtown) Confirmation 3 double sessions to finish the unit, Bishop's Transition team site visitation, Bishop's transition team meetings – 3, Meetings with members in church or Community – 2, Visits - home, hospital, etc. 9 I am requesting vacation from late afternoon Wed Sept 2 - Wed Sept 9. I will be attending my cousin's wedding. Note: Timmy is getting tubes in his ears August 19. He will undergo anesthesia. He will need someone with him for 24 hours, so I will take the 19th as my second day off that week and work from home Tues morning, depending on the time of the surgery. That 24 hours is to be all the recovery he needs.

Office Report was reviewed.

Committee reports:

Sunday School – Starting to keep an attendance sheet for Bear Creek camp points system.

Helping Hands- Discussed having an outside service and picnic. Sandi Hart's memorial service was held and helping hands served the food. There will be a town social prep on August 13th. Hoagie Sale will be on September 16th.

Town Social- A meeting was held right before this church council meeting. Everything seems to be in order.

Building Committee- Parking lot grade is done. Bob Decusky got plumbing drawings from Antz. The HVAC and electrical drawings need to be approved. The color is solidified for the new church.

Food Pantry- There were 7 to 8 people who came during the last food pantry. A list of supplies will be made.

Think Tank- They are working on the bank signees.

Old Business:

The points system proposed by Pastor Michelle was discussed again for Bear Creek camp.

New Business:

Copier contract due in November. Marion is looking to see if we can extend the contract until the new Church is ready. Dale Hart is retiring as cemetery caretaker. The council discussed possible candidates to take over. Marion attended the Time Capsule meeting. It was approved to use a sun catcher, piece of stained glass, drawings of the new building, bulletins, and newsletter along with a letter to put in the capsule. The next Chicken BBQ date was set for Oct. 25th. The chicken bbq from July brought in \$3,735 profit.

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

**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH, BRANDONVILLE
COUNCIL MINUTES FOR AUGUST 11, 2026**

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

Devotional: Pastor Michelle read Psalm 61. We can meet God wherever we are. We dwell under God's wing forever. Do we take it for granted? Maybe life is like a constant prayer. Some days we are always dwelling in God's prayer and other days we don't. We need to take time to enter into prayer. Pastor Michelle is encouraging us to communion with God and encourage even little prayers often. We can say a little prayer for the church or someone else.

Secretary' Report: Was approved as amended.

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

Pastor's Report: Regular Sunday worship services: (4) (one was the annual Brandonville worship and picnic service), **Continuing education:** (in Indianapolis July 6-9), **Funerals:** (1) (Sandi Hart), Pastor Michelle attended Rev. Mindy Heppes funeral service and recorded one sermon for the Synod. **Meetings:** (1) Brandonville council, wedding policy meeting (Brandonville), Old White Church, Helping Hands (Ringtown), **Confirmation Classes:** (3) (double sessions to finish the unit), **Bishop's Transition:** (team site visitation information will be available in the Synod news, registration will be open on the 20th), **Bishop's Transition Team Meetings:** (3), **Meetings with members in the church and community:** (2), **Visits:** (home, hospital, etc.) (9). Pastor Michelle is requesting vacation September 3rd-9th. There will be no communion on September 6th. On August 19th Timmy is having tubes placed in his ears under general anesthesia. He will require someone to be with him for 24 hours post procedure. Pastor Michelle will take the 19th as her second day off that week. She will work from home.

Office Report: Available for review. Sunday school will resume September 13th on Christian Education Sunday.

Old Business: Articles of Incorporation: continues to be a work in progress, **Altar Ware:** continues to be a work in progress, **Fund Raisers:** there has been no new information regarding the Redner's fund raisers. **Projector/Screen:** continues to be a work in progress, Tyler will be moving forward with the project. The cost presented was 2294.00\$ (all is included). This includes 2 computers bigger with more RAM, and Tyler will install the system. A motion was made to move forward with the project installation.. **Wedding Policy:** continues to be a work in progress. A meeting was held on July 29th. A special congregation meeting will be announced regarding recommendations for amendment/updates to the policy in light of the recently adopted Mission Statement. **Emergency Contact List:** Pastor Michelle is working on entering the information from the list into the app. **Driveway Sealing Project:** continues to be a work in progress.

New Business: The Rotary Club will be digging up the time capsule that was buried in 1976 at the Old White Church on August 19th. The articles will be put on display at the Ringtown Senior Citizen's Center August 27th, 28th, and 29th. On August 30th the items along with new items from today will be reburied.

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

Thank You...

...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 Chicken BBQ dinner. Your time preparing, cooking, and baking cookies and your ticket purchases were appreciated.

...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 Service on AUG 9 and the annual AUG appeal donations.

...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. Too many to name! Please know that your time is greatly appreciated! We are truly blessed.

YOU make our ministry happen!

BIBLE STUDY

...to begin MON, SEP 21, 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 to be announced.

LUNCH WITH THE PASTOR.
WED, SEP 23, 12noon at Rngtn Luna's Pizza.

BREAKFAST WITH THE BIBLE

...to begin on SAT, SEP 26, 9am at the Dutch Kitchen, Frackville.

SUNDAY BIBLE STUDY

...to begin SUN, SEP 27, 9am We will be studying "Matchless: the life and love of Jesus"



TIME & TALENTS

Time & Talent forms for the upcoming 2026-2027 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!**



SUNDAY SCHOOL

SUN, 9:30am at Rngtn Brndvl-no SS until SEP 13

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.

**OLD WHITE CHURCH
APPRECIATION OPEN HOUSE
SUN, SEP 13, 2-4pm
at the Old White Church**

**ST JOHN'S, RNGTN
GOD'S GRACE FOOD PANTRY REQUESTS
SAT, SEP 12, 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: oatmeal, Stove Top stuffing, paper towels, laundry soap, dryer sheets, Mac & Cheese, tissues**



LABOR SUNDAY- SUN, SEP 6

You are invited to wear your “work” clothes and bring a “tool” of your vocation to be brought forward and placed on the altar.

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION SUNDAY & INSTALLATION OF SUNDAY SCHOOL STAFF SUN, SEP 13

HARVEST HOME - SUN, SEP 20

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.

FIRST COMMUNION INSTRUCTION SUN, SEP 20, 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 20, 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.

SOCIAL MINISTRY PORK CHOP DINNER WED, SEP 2, pickup 3:30-5:30pm

Dessert cakes are needed.

HELPING HANDS ITALIAN HOAGIE SALE
WED, SEP 16 ...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 6**

RNGTN WORSHIP & COVERED DISH PICNIC SUN, SEP 13

Worship to be held outside in the pavilion. (weather permitting). You are asked to bring a covered dish as suggested by the first letter of your last name:

A-L Casseroles M-S Salads & Vegetables T-Z Either one
Helping Hands will provide Pork BBQ, hot dogs, and pierogies.
Come and share worship, food, & fellowship!

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.

**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.

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.

WORSHIP COMMITTEES FOR SEPTEMBER 2026 Brandonville

Altar: Donna Anthony, Joe Cocco

Ringtown

Altar: Janice Wasser

Ushers: Smokey & Linda Shoup

Communion Glass Usher: Volunteer

Greeters: Volunteers

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

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!

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.

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.



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

UPCOMING COMMUNITY EVENTS

9-2 3:30-5:30pm Social Ministry Pork Chop Dinner pickup

9-13, 10-18, & 11-15 Fellowship Luncheons at

St. John's, Rngtn following worship

9-13 2-4pm Old White Church Appreciation Open House

9-16 St. John's Hoagie Sale

9-19 Ringtown Sr. Citizens 50th Anniversary of their first meeting

RVSC 50th Anniversary Open House 1-4pm refreshments, fellowship, and more. 2pm "Porcupine Pat" McKinney, "How Schuylkill County and Pennsylvania helped Build a Nation." Public invited!

10-3 11:30am-1:30pm AMUMC Annual Soup Sale pickup

10-25 11:30am-1:30pm St. John's Chicken BBQ...takeout only

11-3 Election Day Luncheons & Bake Sales

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

11-25 7pm Community Thanksgiving Eve Service at St. John's

12-6 4pm BUSS Christmas program

7pm St. Paul's Hanging of the Greens

Fire Company Breakfast-3rd SUN, OCT-APR

Pizza Sales-3rd FRI, OCT-MAY

The Ringtown Valley Senior Citizens' (RVSC) invites everyone to their 50th Anniversary Open House at the Senior Center, September 19, 1- 4pm

The event will include history and artifacts, games, door prizes, light refreshments, blood pressure checks and other wellness information. It will also feature a special program by Schuylkill County Conservation District Educator and Schuylkill County Historical Society Board Member, "Porcupine Pat" McKinney, "How Schuylkill County and Pennsylvania helped Build a Nation." The 40 min. program will start at 2:00 pm. Not only will this event honor the past, but also showcase what the group offers presently. Members of the community are invited, and admission is free.

The group is still searching for RVSC memorabilia or quilts made by the senior quilters for their display. If anyone has questions or leads on artifacts to share for the event, please call Diane Rumbel at 570-590-1566.



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.

ARE YOU A THRIVENT MEMBER?

In 2025 we received \$1849 in Choice Dollars.

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.