

St. John's Lutheran Church  
44 West Main St  
Shiremanstown, PA 17011

Non-Profit Org.  
US POSTAGE PAID  
Mechanicsburg, PA 17055  
Permit # 168

ADDRESS SERVICE REQUESTED

**Worship With Us This Christmas:**

**December 23**

6 PM Drive in Service

**December 24**

5:30 PM Children's Service

7:30 PM Candlelight Service

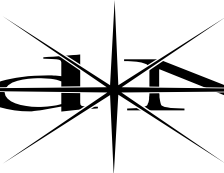
10:00 PM Candlelight Service

**December 26th and January 2nd**

10 am Service only and NO Sunday school

ADDRESS LABEL GOES HERE

# The Good News



LEAD PASTOR'S MESSAGE

Pastor Sarah

A new year! Things are supposed to be new and different - new resolutions and new things. But I'm sure I'm not the only one that feels like we are stuck a little bit...stuck because of the weather, stuck because of the pandemic that never seems to end, stuck because of all the things that we face in the world around us that even though we want them to change, never seem to really change.

But are we really stuck? I don't think that we have to be! Look at our mission statement: Grow in Faith, Share God's love, Serve Others. If we are doing those things, I don't think that we can really be stuck!

If we are growing our faith, then we are always looking for things that challenge us, give us a reason to think and react and things that we can even question in order to grow. How can you grow this year? Come to Sunday School or be part of a Bible Study. Come to worship! Take time to do devotions that make you think and start your day off right! There are always ways to grow our faith!

If we are sharing God's love, then we are always moving in the world! We can never stop and there is always someone else to share that love with! How can you share God's love this year? Invite someone to join you for worship. Pray for someone or pray WITH someone. Let others know that they are loved by dropping a note in the mail or calling them when you think of them. Be the person that stops and listens to what someone else has to say.

If we are serving others, then we are always looking for opportunities to serve. We always have our eyes open to the vulnerable in the world and we know that there are always needs. How can you serve others this year? Stop and put something in the Little Food Pantry. Volunteer in a new way. Make casseroles for Bethesda Mission. Volunteer at the Food Bank. Shovel someone's walk without being asked.

We can be stuck if we let ourselves be stuck. But God calls us to active ministry and mission - let us live out our mission this year and always!

Well, we made it! To the end of 2021. It felt so good to ring in the New Year and see hope on the horizon. And yet, I like to linger in the season of Christmas. Even when the Christmas trees are boxed up, the cookie baking slows down, the snow just turns to slush. The manger will always represent the coming of the Savior to a world in need. I'm grateful for the opportunity to kneel a bit longer in the stable holding out hope against hope that this year more people will come to know the power and promise of our God who comes to us in the baby Jesus.

And yet, we must move on. 2022 brings the hope of resurrection of who we are as a people of faith, a people of this nation, and a people who are interconnected and dependent on our brothers and sisters around the world. There is so much beauty in the "new normal" we have created together. A world where we grow, evolve, transform, and progress together. A world where there is value and respect for the dignity and humanity of every life. I think 2022 can offer us just that - Hope. Something new. A commitment to not treat our most vulnerable people as objects to be discarded but invaluable children of God.

We should commit to love this New Year:

Every elder isolated in a nursing home or forgotten in their own homes, we should commit to love

Every citizen who is homeless and hungry on the sidewalk, we should commit to love

Every immigrant longing for a better life, we should commit to love

Every member of the military keeping us safe, and protecting our rights, we should commit to love

Every pastor struggling with their own spirituality during this time, we should commit to love

Every teacher in every classroom educating our children in impossible conditions, we should commit to love

Every parent trying to work full time and raise a family, we should commit to love

Every child who knows not what they've lost and gives us hope for the future, we should commit to love

This is the new normal I would like to grow into 2022. How about you? What new normal would you like to grow into?

*“Yesterday is gone. Tomorrow has not yet come. There is only today. Let us begin” ~Mother Theresa*

God is with you. Be well in this new year. Be light in this new year. Be love in this new year.

Grace & Peace,  
Pastor Elizabeth Eckman

### January/February Special Days 2022

- New Year's Day — January 1, 2022
- Epiphany — January 6, 2022
- Martin Luther King Jr. Day — January 17, 2022
- Groundhog Day — February 2, 2022
- Valentine's Day —February 14, 2022
- Presidents Day —February 21, 2022
- Transfiguration Day —February 27, 2022

# With Appreciation

*I want to thank St. Johns' for attending Ike's funeral. He would have been so proud to have so many people there. I also want to thank the Pastors. He was a good father and husband and he loved his church.*

*Love,  
Helen*

*Dear Pastors and members of St. John's,  
Thank you for the beautiful fall flowers. Many thanks to Susan for delivering them.*

*With love and blessings to all,  
Peggy Paul*

*Pastor Sarah and members of St. John's,  
Thank you for your many cards and kind words for Ed.*

*Marion Cindy and Dave*

*The Social Ministry Committee wishes to thank the congregation for your gift donations to the New Hope Christmas Blessings project. Many people will have a wonderful Christmas due to your Generosity.*

*Dear St. John's,  
Thank you for your generous gift of \$2,500.00 TO ELCA Global Mission.*

*Global Mission Funding.*

**November 2021- Financial Manager's Report**

		<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>Income</b>	<b>Disbursements</b>	<b>Ending Balance</b>
CURRENT		133,128.03	43,700.58	35,133.91	141,694.70
BENEVOLENCE	Benevolence	0.00	1,907.00	1,907.00	0.00
	World Hunger	0.00	1,327.00	1,327.00	0.00
ORGAN FUND		3,872.00	20.00	0.00	3,892.00
BUILDING		58,531.91	2,196.50	700.70	60,027.71
MEMORIAL		38,255.94	1,150.00	0.00	39,4085.94
<b>TOTALS</b>		<b>233,787.88</b>	<b>50,301.08</b>	<b>39,068.61</b>	<b>245,020.35</b>

**Income**

1 13,072.44 School Facility Use

**Disbursements**

1 2,906.41 Ed Building Maint  
 2 1,735.35 Service contracts  
 3 293.71 Vanco fees  
 4 700.00 Hudson's Salary  
 5 500.00 LYO  
 6 1,331.00 Audit premium

**ST. JOHN'S QR CODE**

The QR code displayed here will take you to St. John's secure eGiving web page. Once there, you'll see several options to donate to St. Johns.



**GOOD NEWS:** The **deadline** for the March/April GOOD NEWS is **Monday, Feb 7**. If you have any information to be included in this issue, please have it in the Church Office by that date.

## JANUARY 2022

January 7-9th: Winterfest High School Synod retreat weekend at Wyndam in Lancaster. Youth and congregational advisors can look forward to a variety of social activities and games in addition to our faith-formation conversations and teaching. The community feel that has defined Winterfest for generations will also be a prominent part of this year's event, alongside inspired worship and time for reflection and sharing. In addition, we will once again offer "ELECTIVES" in the afternoon block on Saturday. Youth AND adult advisors will be able to self-select the elective options they wish to attend, based on their interests.

January 23rd 6-8pm: Youth gathering in our lounge space. We will gather for a few hours to relax, talk with friends, enjoy games and Bible study together, and have lots of snacks!! Please bring a friend or lots of friends and share this fun and low key time with them!!

January 31st 5:30-9:30pm: Snow Tubing at AvalancheXpress in York County. More information will come as we get closer to the date with prices and tubing conditions. Friends are always welcomed!! RSVP to Stephanie. \*\*Rain date: February 7th.

### Eligible THRIVENT FINANCIAL members

St. John's has 134 Thrivent members, of which 40 eligible members can direct Thrivent Choice Dollars. Since 2010 eligible members have directed over \$ 41,000.00 to St. John's. If you are a Thrivent member and don't know if you are eligible for distribution of Thrivent Choice Dollars, PLEASE contact Gary Gardner (717-737-3621 or [gtg181@verizon.net](mailto:gtg181@verizon.net)). Your participation could provide additional dollars directed to St. John's.

THANK YOU to those who have directed Choice Dollars to St. John's

# Join us for worship!

Lead Pastor—The Rev. Sarah Keilholtz  
Associate Pastor—The Rev. Elizabeth Eckman  
Seminararian—Jennifer Morris  
Minister of Music—Thomas A. Notestine  
Youth Director—Stephanie Alsvan  
Office Manager—Deanna Kendall

Office Phone (717) 761-5121

Office Fax (717) 761-4110

Email: [church@stjohns1787.org](mailto:church@stjohns1787.org)

Website: [www.stjohns1787.org](http://www.stjohns1787.org)

Facebook: St Johns Lutheran Church 1787



**GROW**  
IN FAITH  
**SHARE**  
*God's Love*  
**SERVE**  
OTHERS  
**stjohns1787.org**