

The Brick Bulletin

NOVEMBER 2024

St. John Lutheran "Brick" Church
196 Brick Church Road
Montgomery, PA 17752
(570)-547-6423
Email: stjohnbrick@gmail.com
Website: www.stjohnbrick.org

From Jim's Desk

Brothers and Sisters in Christ
Blessings and God's Peace to you as you continue your life caring for his creation

Welcome to the return to standard time. On November 3rd don't forget to turn your clock back one hour or you will be late for church.

On that Sunday we will be celebrating All Saints Sunday, this is a Special Day when we remember all who have joined the church Triumphant in the last year as well all saints of all generations.

On November 10th we will be lifting women in the readings for the day. The women in our lives should be lifted up every day if they are your spouse, mother, grandmother, great grandmother, sister, aunt, cousin, etc. They need to be given credit for the person they are, serving family, friends, as well as their church family.

On November 17th we will hear tell of the final resurrection and the end times in the readings. Something that only God knows when the end will come. We all be prepared for Jesus' triumphant return when he will take all believers to be with him in paradise.

On November 24th we celebrate Christ the King Sunday. In the Gospel lesson we will see the use of power of force from Pilate and the Power of Love through Jesus.

On November 28th we will celebrate Thanksgiving. A day when we gather with family to thank God for the Many Blessings we receive from him every day of our lives. We should celebrate Thanksgiving every day because God Blesses us with much more than we deserve every day. Be thankful for everyone who has touched you during your life here in this world. Parents, teachers, friends, Family, co-workers, and your church family that has influenced your life.

I ask you to keep in your prayers those who have lost loved ones during this upcoming Holiday season. The holidays will be difficult for many this year.

Keep our five churches in your prayers as we get close to making choices that will guide us (with God's guidance) into our future.

I am always thankful God has put me where I am and has been with me to guide me as I continue my service to God and his people.

Your servant in Christ

S A M Jim

ATTENDANCE:

	Avg. '23	Avg. '24
Jan	42	43
Feb	40	43
Ash Wed.	-	36
Mar	45	41
Maun. Thur		42
Easter	19/60	- /76
April	45	45
May	45	41
June	41	43*
July	41	45*
Aug	44	38
Sept	40	37
Oct	41	
Nov	46	
Dec	46	
Christmas Eve	?	

- Did not take into average count the Sunday we were closed



November

November 3rd, 8:30am – All Saints Sunday, Holy Communion

November 10th, 8:30am – Twenty-Fifth Sunday after Pentecost,

November 17th, 8:30am – Twenty-Sixth Sunday after Pentecost, Holy Communion

November 24th, 8:30am – Christ the King Sunday, Holy Communion,

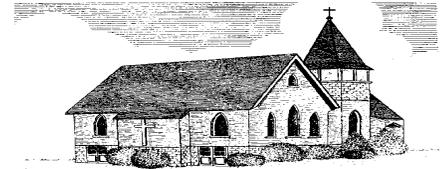
Worship Notes:

December 1st – First Sunday in Advent

December 24th – Nativity of Our Lord

STEWARDSHIP:

It is important to remember that the ministry and the mission of St. John



continues on a year-round basis. While it may not be possible for all members of the congregation to maintain their previous stewardship practices during these uncertain times, the church strives to meet its obligations to the greater church and the local benevolence programs which rely on our support.



Tithes and offerings can be mailed to the Church at **196 Brick Church Road, Montgomery, PA 17752**. The continuing support of our mission is a hallmark of St. John's tradition of faithfulness. Even in uncertain times, we are church for the world, and, these days, we need each other, just as the world needs us.

2024 Sign-up sheets are on the bulletin board for sponsoring altar flowers and Sunday bulletins. If you would like to sponsor flowers or bulletins and cannot come to the church, please call the church office (570-547-6423) to reserve the date you would like. Altar flowers are (2) vases for \$37.00 or (1) vase for 18.50 and bulletins are \$10.00 per Sunday.



Altar Flowers

Bulletins

The following Sunday are currently available:

Flowers:	Bulletins:
November 17 th	December 1 st
November 24 th	December 15 th
December 1 st	December 29 th
December 8 th	
December 15 th	

The 2025 Sign up Sheets will be posted in the Narthex for both Flower and Bulletin sponsorships starting in December.

Bulletin dates listed are the last ones available for the year 2024!

There are still plenty of open spots for Altar Flower sponsors.



Communion & Altar Committee

November 2024
Esta Meisel and Nancy Jarrett



St. John “Brick” Church will continue to live stream our Worship Service every Sunday morning on our Facebook page AND continue to upload every Sunday Service to the church’s webpage on the same day.

UPCOMING! Rotation of ministers for the East Lycoming Co-operative Ministry Project

	St. John’s	Messiah	Mt. Zion	Trinity	Unityville
Nov. 17	Diane	Diane	Jim	Jim	Laura



Please support our church by buying Weis cards. They are available on Sunday mornings before Worship Service. You may also buy them at the church office Monday, Tuesday, and Thursday from 8:30am to 1:00pm.

GREETERS WANTED



What better way to spread the LOVE of God than to welcome his people to His House each Sunday!

The job entails showing up a little early to greet everyone as they enter the church, making sure to hand them a bulletin for morning worship, direct visitors to a pew and maybe even introduce them to someone who can help them through the service. **It’s not hard, it’s just friendly you can do it give it a try!** Signups are on the board next to the podium in the narthex.



Communion Assistants Needed:

We are in seeking a few individuals to fill in as Communion Assistants. There is a need in expanding the list of the those who help with the distribution of communion on communion Sunday’s. **Please consider putting your name on the list.**

Lectors Still Needed this Fall and Winter!

Lectors assist during the Service by reading the weekly scripture readings and leading the responsive reading of the psalm. If you would like to help with this ministry, **please sign up on the sheet in the narthex** and indicate the Sunday (or Sundays) you would like to help. If you would like the readings ahead of time to practice, please see the church office to pick up the readings for your Sunday.



Footprints Food Pantry

71 Bower St Ext food distribution dates and times

10-2 & 5:30-6:30 the 2nd Thursday 10-12 4th Thursday

**** please bring in proof of residency as we begin our new year****

If unable to pick up food during distribution hours *your appointed proxy will need to do your pick up during the distribution hours and can be arranged @ the desk. We are available after hours for emergency situation food only.

Thank you for understanding.

CLOTHES DONATION



St. Pauly Textile, Inc.

Here at St John Lutheran Church, we commonly refer to the St. Pauly Textile, Inc. as St. Pauly shed which is **located in the back of the parking lot across from the parsonage garage.** Donations of good used clothing can be placed in the shed at any time. It is available to not only the people of St. John, but also to anyone who would like to donate. The church is paid so much per pound for the clothing. St. Pauly thanks you so much for partnering with them. They truly appreciate all the support you continue to give to the clothing shed program!

****At times the clothing donations pile up in front of the drop-off window and need to be moved. A big thank you to Paul Pentz for overseeing this.**



Poinsettias Order Form will be in the back of the Narthex Mid-Late November. If you would like to order Poinsettias and can not make it in to order please contact the Church Office.



COUNCIL

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Council Corner November

The October council meeting was held on Monday, October 21.

Council wants to thank Rae Ann and Kelly for the informative presentation they provided to the congregation on Sunday, Oct. 20, regarding the 5-Church Co Op. We appreciate their time, effort, and input on this Co Op committee, to represent our church over the last 18 months.

The annual congregational meeting will be held after worship service on Sunday, December 8. Please mark your calendars so that you will be present to vote (to be a voting member one must have contributed and communed within the last 2 years) on new council members and the church's 2025 budget.

Deb Books and Donna Dershem have completed their three year term on council. We are looking for at least two church members to say "yes" to the nominating committee to replace them. Council is hopeful that at least two members will take an interest to serve a term (3 years) on council to keep our council at 7 members. The council can consist of up to a total of 11 members and 1 youth member.

The weekly Sunday bulletin is now being posted on the church's Facebook page.

The first Food Truck Community Service Project date will be Thursday, May 8. Council's goal is to have the community come and purchase dinner from the trucks, sit in our parking lot and visit with one another. More information will follow as the date gets closer.

The next council meeting will be held on Monday, November 18 at 6:00 PM.



St. John's Cemetery Fall Cleanup – Please remove any items that you might want saved prior to **November 9th**.



CAMP MOUNT LUTHER
presents
an evening at
Shade Mountain Winery & Vineyard
November 1 • 6:00-8:00 p.m.
SPACE IS LIMITED
Make your reservation today!
contact: 570-922-1587 or
cml@campmountluther.org
All proceeds benefit Camp Mount Luther



Bible Study
ON FIRST AND SECOND CORINTHIANS
Tuesday Afternoons
AT MESSIAH LUTHERAN CLARKSTOWN
3PM - 4:30PM
IN PREPARATION YOU ARE ENCOURAGED TO READ EITHER THIEF OF CORINTH BY TESSA AFSHAR OR A WEEK IN THE LIFE OF CORINTH BY BEN WITHERINGTON III

AMONG OUR MEMBERS AND FRIENDS

Intercessions: John and Anna Murray, Cam Koons, Debbie Norman, Terry Klemick, Carol Thomas, Danielle Graves, Jonas Mast, Jordan Mast, Ryan Heddens, Leslie Gruver, Christian Harvey, Brynn Wajda, Mark Foresman, Family of Alice Gotshall, Howard Worthington, Donna Watts, Jodi Ellis, Trey Gresh, Dawn H, Dave Doran, Tracy Boyer, Erin Fox, and please pray for those afflicted with the COVID 19 virus and their families, and residents and staff of long term and assisted living facilities. Finally, pray for the members of St. John's church family and all our brothers and sisters in Christ.



Military Prayers: *CPT Jacob Umpstead* US Airforce, *Airman Jayce Heckman* from Sheppard Air Force Base (Deployed to England)(nephew of Dave & Shirley Doran), *Corporal Eric Bennett* and the 1st LAR, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine aboard the USS Somerset (Deployed), *PFC Carter Temple*

Please call the church office (570-547-6423) or email: stjohnbrick@gmail.com if you have names to add to the prayer list.

Names written in the Prayer Request book will be printed in the bulletin for two weeks. If after two weeks they need to be kept on the prayer list, please write their names in again or call the church office (570-547-6423).



Prayers for our soldiers at home and abroad!

We have decided to add another section to our prayer list. This list will be for our military, both those serving here in the states and overseas. For those soldiers just starting out (going through their basic training and schooling) and those who have dedicated many years to serving our great nation.

If you know someone who you would like added to this list, please contact the church office or add them to the prayer list book in the narthex.

Thank You Notes



The Family of William and Nancy Kahler wish to thank everyone for the lovely cards we received in the recent death of our son Roger.

Son Light House:

On behalf of the Recipients, Volunteers and Board of Directors at the Son Light House, "Thank You" for your donation of "Cereal" we received September 30, 2024.

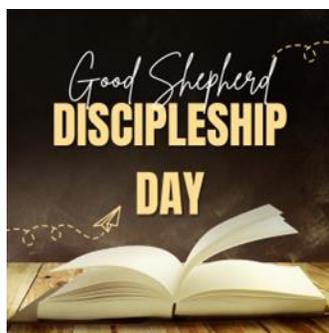
We are truly thankful for your generous and thoughtful support. This donation will be distributed in October at the Son Light House.

God's Blessing,

Ken and Delores Frey, Directors



Thank you to all those who made or donated blankets to our Blanket Sunday on October 6th.



Join Good Shepherd, Berwick for a transformative day of discipleship as we explore the call to follow Jesus. Through engaging sessions, inspiring teachings, and meaningful discussions, we will deepen our understanding of what it means to be a disciple and how to share that journey with others. Grounded in Scripture, our time together will equip you with practical tools and strategies to live out your faith authentically and impactfully in your community. Whether you're just beginning your journey or seeking to deepen your commitment, this retreat offers a supportive environment for growth, connection, and empowerment. Sign up today to reserve your seat because space is limited!

REGISTRATION AND OTHER INFO

To sign up, simply click this link and fill it out! <https://forms.gle/ie5dEESG1cQDBgzY7>

The event will be from 9 a.m.-4:30 p.m. on November 9 at Good Shepherd Lutheran Church – 1600 Fowler Avenue Berwick, PA. Sign up now to reserve your seat because space is limited!

The only cost is sacrificing a day of watching college football to grow in discipleship! A free-will offering will be collected to off-set the cost of the day.



Music Notes November 2024

We're almost there, folks! The end of the liturgical year comes with the end of November, the "bookends" month as I call it, for we have white on All Saint's Sunday at the beginning of the month and again for Christ the King Sunday, generally the last Sunday of November. Then, starting with the first Sunday in Advent, we go from "Year B" in the liturgical cycle to "Year C."

Why do we have Years A, B, and C? We are given three years, so we hear each of the three Synoptic Gospels: Matthew, Mark, and Luke. We hear Luke's writings during Year C.

You will most certainly ask: "What is a synoptic gospel?" and "What about John?" The term "synoptic" comes from the Greek word meaning "to see together." The Gospels of Matthew, Mark, and Luke relate stories that are pretty much the same, told in much the same sequence, and generally from the same point of view. John, however, tells things quite a bit differently, for a different purpose, as well as leaving some things out, rearranging timelines, and using very different verbiage. John is also the ONLY Gospel that tells how Jesus washed His disciples' feet. John is scattered through the three-year rotation, generally during Lent and Easter, but also during Christmas, when we hear how "the Word became Flesh and dwelt among us." My mother, a quintessential liturgical Lutheran, of course had it worked out so that she would die on Christ the King Sunday, the logical end to a life that revolved around the church, its rubrics, and its music. What BETTER day to go and stand in the presence of Christ the King?

We will be observing All Saint's Sunday this year with some special music. The prelude that morning will be the haunting "Meditation" from the opera "Thais", giving us the opportunity close our eyes and reflect on the beauty of the Kingdom of God that is always within our reach. At Messiah, the choir will present the lively hymn "I sing a song of the Saints of God," which was written by Lesbia Scott, an Englishwoman who composed a number of children's hymns that she sang to her own children as a young mother. This hymn does a wonderful job of telling us that we are ALL Saints, no matter who we are, no matter what our occupation.

With the end of the year also comes preparation for the new one! It's time again to be thinking about joining the "Christmas Choir" at Brick as we prepare an anthem for the Christmas Eve service. We will have our first rehearsal on Thursday, December 6, at 7pm in the church. We had a nice crowd last year, and we'd love to have you sing with us this year! No matter your singing ability, WE NEED YOU!

Have a WONDERFUL Thanksgiving, and never stop singing Praise to God!

~ Jeff Harvey



From the Secretary's Desk

The Annual report is on its way. I hope to have them available no later than the second Sunday of November. They will be available on the table in the vestibule.

Along with all of that I have end of year giving statements, 2025 giving envelopes and the Advent & Christmas season to prepare for. If you would like an up-to-date giving statement to look over to make sure everything is correct, please contact the church office and I will be happy to print one and send out to you. Also, if you are someone or know of someone who should receive envelopes this upcoming year who was not receiving in the past, please let me know so I can add them to the list before it gets put in the system we use.

As of the time I am doing this newsletter my son Carter is now stateside. Depending on how long debriefing is in Texas, he should be on his way to PA the last few days of October or the first week of November. We are so glad that God has watched over him and protected him on his journey and that he has brought him safely home to us, we are blessed and give glory to God for that. Thank you all for praying for him while he was in Africa, we appreciated your help in keeping him safe with prayer!



I plan to have annual reports printed and ready for pick up November 3rd , and no later than November 10th. They will be placed on the table in the vestibule.

Potpie Fundraiser



The pot pie by the quart fundraiser was held on Wednesday, October 23, 2024.

The prep work began on Thursday, October 18. The work included de-boning the chicken and freezing it for the day of the sale. Volunteers worked from 9 am to 11 am. Thank you to the following who worked that day: Marian Bender, Joyce Taylor, Ken Blessing, Kitty Blessing, Ira Bitler, Shirley Doran, Dave Doran, Linda Metzger, Connie Batdorf, Nancy Richart and myself.

Then on Monday, October 21 was another prep day. The potpie was made, rolled thin, placed on parchment paper and placed in the freezer. Also, 50 pounds of potatoes were peeled, carrots and celery were cut to be ready to go for Wednesday. To complete all this work, the volunteers were: Nancy Jarrett, Linda Metzger, Carolyn Girard, Deb Books, Shirley Doran, Sandy Wright, Judy More, Deb Engleman, Kelly Puzio, Ken Blessing, Kitty Blessing,

Carl Richart, Nancy Richart, Nancy Eck, Ken Eck, Ira Bitler, Gene Burkholder, Connie Batdorf and myself. With all these volunteers, work was started between 8-9 that morning and completed by noon. Thank you to all who helped on Monday. What a joy it was to have so many efficient and cheerful workers

On Wednesday, the day of the sale, we had the huge task of cooking 125 quarts of potpie, cooling it, and packing it into containers by 3:00 pm. Connie was worried about accomplishing all of this on time, so she arrived at the church by 7:15 am to get started. We only needed about 4 people in the morning to start the process so Connie Batdorf, Carolyn Girard, Ira Bitler, Nancy Richart and myself began the cooking process.

I asked others to show up sometime after lunch to help. The following were our helpers: Dorlan Books, Deb Books, Esta Meisel, Ernie Meisel, Cathy Buck, Ken Blessing and Kitty Blessing. They completed the tasks of filling quarts, washing dishes, helping stir the pots and anything else was needed.

Then about 2-3 pm the remaining crew came to sell the potpie, deliver it to the cars, and direct traffic. These volunteers were Kelly Puzio, Steve Puzio, Morgan Strieby, Lori Strieby, Michelle Smith and Dennis Gruver.

Because of the team's work throughout the three days, all of the quarts went flying out the door and onto the community's dinner table. We probably could have sold at least 25 more quarts!

Thanks also to Joanne Murray and Melissa Temple for taking the phone calls for people to pre-order. Kelly Puzio for advertising the sale on Facebook, the Shopper, Sun Gazette and the Webb Weekly. Also thanks to Dave Morningstar who worked diligently to get the information on the electronic sign, however the sign did not want to cooperate.

POT PIE Recipe

**By: Mrs. Margaret Umpstead
(From the Church Cookbook)**

This was the recipe we followed for our fundraiser

Chicken Ham and Bone
Cook meat until well done; bone and cube into a gallon of water in large pot.

Dough:

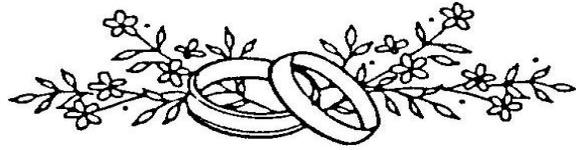
2 Eggs, well beaten	2 TBSP. Shortening
1 C. Milk	4 C. Flour
Pinch of salt	1 tsp. baking powder

Mix dough; roll thin and let dry 3 hours. Cut into squares and add to boiling broth. Cover and cook 20 minutes. Can add potatoes and carrots, if desired. Feeds 6 to 8 hungry people.



November Birthdays

Bonnie Bennett	2
Delores Brennan	2
Michelle Smith	3
Tammy St. James	3
Aaron Wise	6
Andrew Wise	6
Bryce Winder	10
McKenna Moyer	11
Mason Moyer	11
Todd Neidig	14
Mitchell Schreiber	17
Paula Phillips	20
Samantha Wise	25
Lena Karge	27



November Anniversaries

Simon & Donna Dershem	7
Jim & Barb Danko	10

Happy Birthday and Happy Anniversary to all! If there are any additions or corrections to the birthday or anniversary lists, please contact the church office (547-6423) with the information so it can be added or corrected.



From the Church Cookbook!

Green Bean Bake

By: Linda Knight

- | | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| 1 can Cream of Mushroom Soup | Dash of pepper |
| 3 c. Green Beans or 2 cans, drained | ½ c. Milk |
| | 1 (3 ½ oz) Box French fried onion rings |

In a 1 ½ quart casserole, blend soup, milk and dash of pepper. Stir in beans. Set aside for 4-5 onion rings for top of casserole. Break up the rest of the onion rings and add to the soup and bean mixture. Bake at 350° for 25 minutes. Top with the remaining onions and bake 5 minutes more.

Yield is about 4 cups

If you would like to have one of your recipes included in an upcoming newsletter, please email it to the church office or stop by and drop it off during regular office hours.



The Seafarers' Satchels are here!

Once again, we are looking forward to brightening a seafarer's Christmas. The Christmas-at-Sea bags are located on a table in the narthex for your taking. Please note: the list of items needed and the directions for filling them are found in each of the bags. NEW for 2024: the Service Committee is willing to do the shopping for you. If you prefer to contribute money toward filling the satchels versus filling your own, please place the money in a pew envelope and mark it **SEAFARERS**. Please return your filled bags and/or

contributions by **Sunday, November 3**. Thank you to Dennis for his willingness to deliver the filled satchels to the Synod Office.



Fall Frisbee Fun Day! Ready to enjoy a fall day outdoors and get some exercise? Everyone is invited to come to Camp Mount Luther on Sunday, November 3, 2024, at 2:30 p.m. to play a round of disc golf. Please meet us at the A-Center. There is no need to sign up. Just show up ready to play



DEADLINE FOR THE NOVEMBER NEWSLETTER IS NOVEMBER 21ST.

November 2024						
Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
					1	2
3 8:30am Worship w/ Communion All Saints Sunday	4 10:30am-2:00pm Office Hours	5 8:00am-12:30pm Office Hours 3:00pm-4:30pm Bible Study @ Messiah Seafarer Bags due to Synod Office	6	7 8:00am-12:30pm Office Hours	8	9
10 8:30am Worship Gideons will be here	11 10:30am-2:00pm Office Hours	12 8:00am-12:30pm Office Hours 3:00pm-4:30pm Bible Study @ Messiah	13	14 8:00am-12:30pm Office Hours	15	16
17 8:30am Worship w/ Communion	18 10:30am-2:00pm Office Hours 6:00pm Church Council Meeting	19 8:00am-12:30pm Office Hours 3:00pm-4:30pm Bible Study @ Messiah	20	21 8:00am-12:30pm Office Hours Newsletter Deadline	22	23
24 8:30am Worship w/Communion Christ the King Sunday	25 10:30am-2:00pm Office Hours	26 8:00am-12:30pm Office Hours 3:00pm-4:30pm Bible Study @ Messiah	27	28 8:00am-12:30pm Office Hours	29	30

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