

St. John Journal

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church • 1002 S. Main Street Williamstown, NJ 08094



FALL 2020

A MESSAGE FROM PASTOR TAMMY



Greetings in the name of Jesus Christ!

Paul writes in his letter to the *Philippians* chapter 4, verse 1:

Therefore, my brothers and sisters, whom I love and long for, my joy and crown, stand firm in the Lord in this way, my beloved.

We love and have longed for you!

The entire ministry worship team, including St. John's Little Big Band, proclaimed these words over and over again in prayer and action throughout these last 7 months since we physically worshiped together inside the sanctuary with you, our beloved assembly.

With perseverance woven in with creativity, innovation, and resourcefulness, the ministry team remains joyful and hopeful while leading worship services again inside the sanctuary, with Covid-19 precautionary measures in place. We surely *can do all things through Him who strengthens us* (*Philippians 4:13*).

As I look through the photos that follow in this Fall Edition of our newsletter, my heart overflows with love, joy, and gratitude for God's continued blessings in the midst of these challenging times. Our newsletter team, Marie and Henry Fickenscher, have, once again, captured precious, sacred moments for us to gaze upon in awe and wonder of God's goodness.

As we continue with our 8:45 and 11:00 am in-house worship services (by reservation through the office), livestream, and Park & Pray inside cars in the sanctuary parking lot through FM receiver (through Henry's masterful, technical skills), we stand firm in the Lord together crowned as one in the body of Christ.

Keep well, my siblings in Christ. *The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with your spirit always* (*Philippians 4:23*).

In Christ,

Pastor Tammy

St. John Evangelical Lutheran Church
1002 S. Main Street Williamstown, NJ 08094

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Website: www.stjohnselc-wnj.org

Reservations for both 8:45 am and 11:00 am services can be made by calling the church office at 856-875-8742. Masks are required.

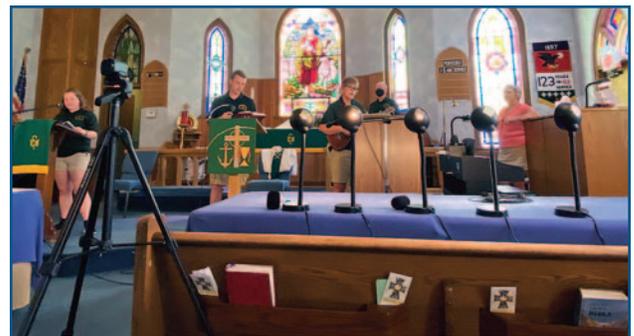
The sanctuary is sanitized between worship services.

Sunday School takes place in the Education Building from 10:00-10:45 am with mask requirements.

ST. JOHN CHURCH PHOTO GALLERY



2020 • SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER St. John's Lutheran Church INDOOR LIVE STREAMING OF CHURCH SERVICES





2020 • SEPTEMBER • OCTOBER

St. John's Lutheran Church Outdoor Live Streaming of Church Services
LAWNSHIP WORSHIP SERVICES





2020 • OCTOBER 18

**St. John's Lutheran Church Outdoor Live Streaming of Church Services
BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS WORSHIP SERVICE**





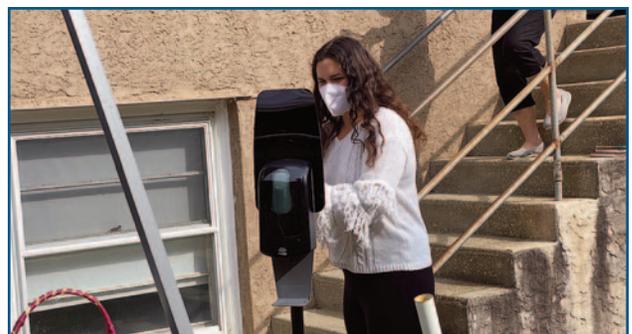
2020 • OCTOBER 24
St. John's Lutheran Church
OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION



ST. JOHN CHURCH PHOTO GALLERY



2020 • October 24 St. John's Lutheran Church OKTOBERFEST CELEBRATION



ST. JOHN CHURCH PHOTO GALLERY



2020 • OCTOBER 25 • REFORMATION SUNDAY

**St. John's Lutheran Church Resuming Indoor Worship
Under Covid-19 Guidelines**

ST. JOHN'S LITTLE BIG BAND AND WORSHIP TEAM



ST. JOHN CHURCH PHOTO GALLERY



2020 • OCTOBER 25 • REFORMATION SUNDAY

**St. John's Lutheran Church Resuming Indoor Worship
Under Covid-19 Guidelines**

WORSHIP SERVICE





2020 • OCTOBER 25 • REFORMATION SUNDAY

**St. John's Lutheran Church Resuming Indoor Worship
Under Covid-19 Guidelines**

SUNDAY SCHOOL PRESENTATION



Christian Education 🌿 Sunday School

Sunday School students are enjoying our new COVID safe space in the Education Building. We are meeting in the upper level where we can social distance, have lots of fresh air and spread out all while enjoying activities, lessons and planning presentations. And, of course, all are showing off their cute masks at all times.

We started off the new year with the children designing an individual story board for their individual space for craft time, choosing individual carpet squares for story time and learning to say their own individual prayers.

The end of September and beginning of October found us reviewing lessons from last year, building a time line of the prophets of the Old Testament, talking about service projects and studying about Jacob and learning the song, Jacob's Ladder. On October 24th the children did a presentation in church reenacting the story of Jacob's dream. Our youngest students were the angels singing the song and the older students acted out the story. What a delight to have the children ministering to the congregation on the first day back in our sanctuary.

The children will also be choosing members of the congregation to be pen pals. During this time, when so many people feeling isolated, we thought it would be great to correspond with those who would be uplifted by a young person corresponding with them. Our hope is they become great pen pals.

Beginning November 1st, we will be studying King David.

Stayed tuned for information about future service projects the children will be sponsoring.



2020 • OCTOBER 25 • REFORMATION SUNDAY

St. John's Lutheran Church Affirmation of Baptism Service

Arabella Pino 🍷 Maria Torbik





PRECAUTIONARY MEASURES & GUIDELINES

- Mandatory participant attendance tracking of every individual for contact tracing
- Mask requirement of congregation at all times for ages 3 and over (as able) in the nave and narthex. (Bandannas, neck gaiters, and neckerchiefs are discouraged)
- Temperature checks at the door
- Use of hand sanitizing dispenser before entering sanctuary
- Seating in open pews by assignment
- Escorted seating and dismissal by ushers (with exceptions of restroom needs and emergency exiting)
- No singing of hymns. Soft, whispered group speaking only
- No physical contact of any kind with anyone outside of your family or grouping "bubble"
- Communion will continue to be distributed by "Fennimore stick" allowing for social distancing
- Offerings to be individually placed into single plate by stairs

ST. JOHN LUTHERAN CHURCH STAFF



Pastor:

The Rev. Tammy Harmer

Organist/Music Director

Director of Bell Choirs:

Janice Smith

Sexton:

Betsey Eley

Administrative Coordinator:

Pat Reed

Band Director: Ken Weaver

Webmaster: Rich Oberle

Communications Director: Marie Fickenscher

Technical Director: Henry Fickenscher