

News from the Pews

www.stjohnscoplay.com

May and June 2026

Jane Gillespie, Editor 610-264-1111 stjohnscoplay@rcn.com

PRESS FROM THE PREZ

Happy spring everyone! We made it through another Pennsylvania winter. As we close in on summer, there are a few things to remind you all about.

We will move to the summer schedule for worship Sunday May 31st. Service will be at 9:15 in the Social Hall. Yes, you read that correctly, we will have services in the Social Hall where we have the convenience of air conditioning.

A huge thank you to all who donated, volunteered to assist with, and who helped make the first annual St John's rummage sale a huge success. Almost \$2100 went into the general fund. THANK YOU!!!

The annual Easter breakfast was another success this year. Thanks to all the volunteers who helped crack the eggs, flip the pancakes, dip the French toast, and fry the potatoes. We had an awesome turnout as always.

Summer also brings VBS the week of July 20th culminating with the annual picnic at the Coplay American Club pavilion on Sunday July 26th. Your Picnic Committee is looking for a face painter for the children at the picnic. If you know of anyone, please pass along their contact information to me or any Council member. Also, we will be inviting our friends from Grace UCC in Northampton to participate in VBS. We will again have the corn hole tournament, so grab team member. Sign-up sheets will be in both Narthex's in the coming weeks. We are looking into options for the food for this year's picnic, more to come on this.

The Call Committee process is proceeding. The new updated site profile has been uploaded to the Synod site. We are just waiting for the word from the Synod that they'll be search for potential Pastor's interested in St John's as their calling. Stay tuned for more to come. The Parsonage renovations are ongoing with the flooring completed and the painting will be by the time you are reading this. A few more things to update there and it will be ready for rental.

[continued on next page]

St. John's Lutheran Church

Coplay, Pennsylvania

Gregory Miller, Council President

Cell Phone 610-393-9421

Church Office Phone: 610-262-6171

Church Office email: stjohnscoplay@rcn.com

Supply Pastor for May are as follows:

May 3rd- Rev Joseph Molnar
May 10th- Rev Lauren Applegate
May 17th- Rev Joseph Molnar
May 24th- Rev Carey Miller
May 31st- Rev Joseph Molnar

Supply Pastor for June are as follows:

June 14th – Rev Virginia Heimer
June 28th- Rev David Werley

Please consider attending services to worship with your St John's family. We could really use your support as we try to expand our ministries in the Coplay community and beyond. The annual church picnic is a great occasion to socialize with your fellow St. John's family.

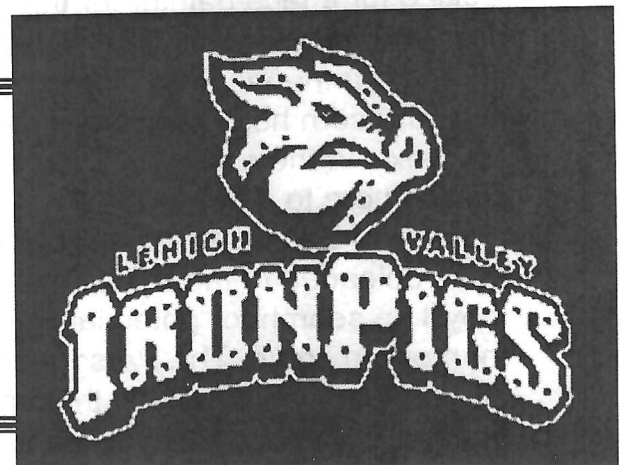
Respectfully,

Greg

Greg Miller

Church Council President

Cheer on the IRON PIGS
playing against WORCHESTER
on Saturday, June 20th, 2026
at 6:35 PM!!!



FIREWORKS after the game will be a fun way to end the evening.

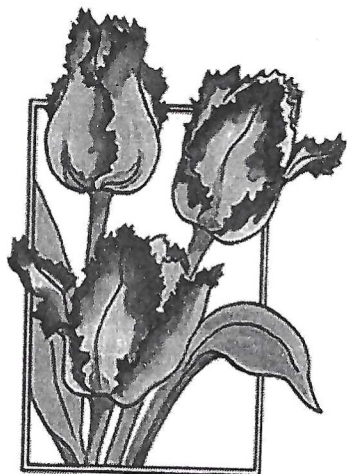
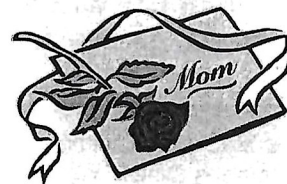
Tickets are \$13, with a \$2 loaded value to use for your favorite munchies.

For tickets or information, call Ondie Neifert (610-216-9216)

The deadline for ordering tickets is JUNE 13th.

Mother's Day

May 10th



All mothers are especially invited to attend worship on their special day, Sunday, May 10th.

During our 10:30 AM worship service, we will honor all of our mothers. The service will include a special sermon, as well as gifts for all mothers in attendance, especially carnations from the Korsak siblings, in memory of their mother, Ellen and sisters, Susie and Pat.

What better place to honor our mothers than in church during worship on their special day!

MEMORIAL AND HONORARIUM FORM

MOTHER'S DAY - 2026

ENCLOSED \$ _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

BY: _____

ENVELOPE # _____ PHONE _____

_____ BUILDING IMPROVEMENT FUND

_____ CHURCH COOLING FUND

_____ MEMORIAL FUND

_____ ORGAN FUND

_____ GENERAL FUND

DEADLINE FOR SPECIAL GIFTS IS MAY 3rd
(IN ORDER TO BE LISTED IN THE WORSHIP BULLETIN)

FORMS ARE BEING TAKEN BY ONDIE NEIFERT

From him the whole body, joined and held together by every supporting ligament, grows and builds itself up in love, as each part does its work.

Ephesians 4:16



God has blessed the members of St. John's with many different talents and skills. When we all "pitch in," we are able to do some pretty amazing things! We are a church family, and we should all feel welcome to join in the work of our church!

Whether you have just a little time or are ready to tackle a large project, whether you know how to do something or need some guidance, whether you've been actively participating in the past or not, there are many opportunities for you to be involved in the life of your congregation. Here are some of the groups (and their leaders) who would greatly appreciate your help:

Christian Education (Gail Yudd—484-788-9791)

Teaching/substitute teaching Sunday School
Keeping attendance and offering records
Helping with Vacation Bible School
Helping with parties and special events

Finance and Stewardship

(Ondie Neifert—610-216-9216)

Counting and recording the offerings
Taking care of the finances of the church
Encouraging members in their giving

Senior Choir (Ruthann Brandt—610-262-3304)

Singing on Sundays
Singing for festival worship services
Singing solos or small groups

Social Ministry (Louise Hash—484-294-6456)

Visiting our shut-in members
Visiting our hospitalized members
Preparing holiday gifts for our shut-in members

Worship and Music (Renee Coyle—610-216-4553)

Enhancing our worship experience
Logistics for communion, etc.
Worship volunteers

Altar Guild

Caring for and displaying seasonal paraments and altar linens
Setting up and cleaning up Holy Communion

**Community Days (Gayle Ganser—484-695-3696,
Ondie Neifert—610-216-9216,
Greg Miller—610-393-9421)**

Plan and staff St. John's food stand at Coplay Park
(last weekend in August)

Social Media (Joe Danner—484-788-9792)

Communicating our ministry via website, Facebook, and more

Fellowship (Karen Haines—610-653-2816)

Receptions after worship services (prepare, set-up, serve, and/or clean-up)
Church dinners
Funeral receptions

Youth Group (Joe Danner—484-788-9792)

Social and devotional activities for youth, 10 and up
Community outreach activities (food bank, Halloween parade, and many more)
Christmas caroling to our shut-ins

Property (Jeff Reinhard—484-201-8459)

Caring for our church-owned properties
Minor maintenance and repairs
Church "work days"

Evangelism (Louise Hash—484-294-6456)

Community outreach
Membership updating
Ordering nametags for our new members

Picnic (Joe Danner—484-788-9792;

Jeff Reinhard—484-201-8459)

Planning all aspects of the Summer Picnic at Coplay Park
Setting up and cleaning up on Picnic Day

Scholarship (Gayle Ganser—484-695-3696)

Awarding scholarships for students in higher education

Lectors (William Gilfert—610-657-0078)

Reading scripture and leading psalms during worship

Newsletter Volunteers

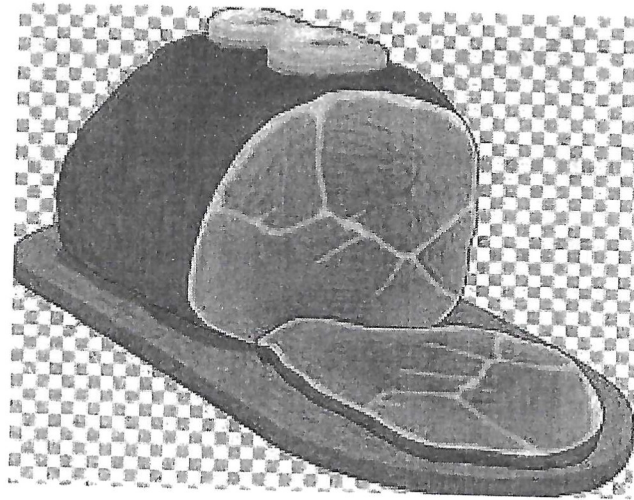
(Jane Gillespie—610-264-1111)

Monthly collating of "News From the Pews" and preparing for bulk mailing

It's easy to volunteer:

- ✚ check the church calendar for the group or committee meeting time and come out to the next meeting, OR
- ✚ speak with the person responsible for the committee or group you'd like to try out, OR

Try one, or try a few! Your help is greatly needed and greatly appreciated!



**ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH
BAKED HAM Pick Up Dinner**

Sat, May 16th

18 S. 3RD ST, COPLAY

MENU: Ham

Filling with gravy

Green beans

Fruit Cup

Roll

Dessert

PRE-ORDERS ONLY

Call Karen

610-653-2816

Deadline to order:

Friday, May 8th

Drive through pick up 4-5:30

Free Will Donations are gratefully accepted to help defray the cost and allow us to continue our mission of helping others.

Special Congratulations

to all 2026 graduates from our area high schools

and from institutions of higher learning!



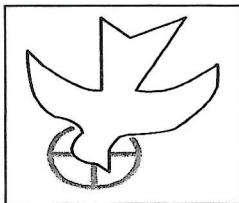
We are especially proud of your working and learning through the unprecedented pandemic disruption — God bless you for your patience and understanding.

Rather than risk missing someone, we will not attempt to list names individually. If you will be out of town and want to continue receiving the newsletter, please let us know by leaving a note with your name and address at the church office.

We are proud of every one of you and wish you all of God's blessings as you begin the next chapter in your life's journey!

Recognition of our First Year Confirmation Student

On May 24th, St. John's will celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit with Holy Communion and the recognition of our first-year Confirmation students:



Hailey Ann Correll

Daughter of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob (Jessica) Correll

Please help us honor them as we welcome God the Holy Spirit, on Pentecost Sunday, May 24th, at 10:30 AM.

**All Sunday School Students
and their Parents**

are invited to the annual year-end

**Sunday School Appreciation and Awards
Program and Continental Breakfast**

on
**Sunday, May 24th, 2026
9:00 AM**



No R.S.V.P. is necessary ~ Just come!

Don't miss this annual closing event of acknowledgements, awards, and activities!

Welcome, New Members!

On Sunday, March 22nd, St. John's received the following new members into our congregation:

Infant Baptism – Eli James Lathrop

New Members – Mr. Matthew MacNeill Lathrop

Mrs. Christina Samantha Lathrop

Our heartiest welcome to Matthew, Christina and Eli as they join our ministry for Christ at St. John's! All God's blessings!

OUR SUMMER PICNIC AT THE AMERICAN CLUB PAVILION

The 2026 Picnic Committee is planning our summer congregational picnic, and will meet on **Monday evenings, May 4th, at 6 PM and on June 1st, at 6pm.**



We are always looking for help for our committee, to lend a hand and bring new ideas for our annual outdoor event. The picnic will be held on **Sunday, July 26th**. We'll enjoy a casual worship service in the Coplay American Club pavilion, including the closing program for our Vacation Bible School. A fabulous picnic lunch, music, and games fill out the day so everyone can have a great time.

The Cornhole Tournament will be returning at this year's picnic. Teams of two adults will compete in a bracket tournament with winning team advancing to the next game. If interested in entering in the tournament, please contact **Greg Miller** at millerqp@rcn.com or text at 610-393-9421, or drop a note in **Greg's** mailbox in the social hall at church.

"Many hands make light work," so please consider helping. If you can't attend the meeting but are willing to help in any capacity, please contact **Joe Danner** at 484-788-9792 or jedanner@outlook.com; or **Jeff Reinhard** at 484-201-8459 or reinhardwhi4@aol.com.

See you May 4th!

CAN YOU HELP WITH... COPLAY COMMUNITY DAYS?

Coplay Community Days will be held August 28th – August 30th. St. John's will again have a stand selling ice cream, hot dogs, pork BBQ, halupkies and a crowd favorite: cabbage and noodles. We will also be selling Coke products (cans of Coke, diet Coke, Sprite and diet Sprite) and A Treat products.

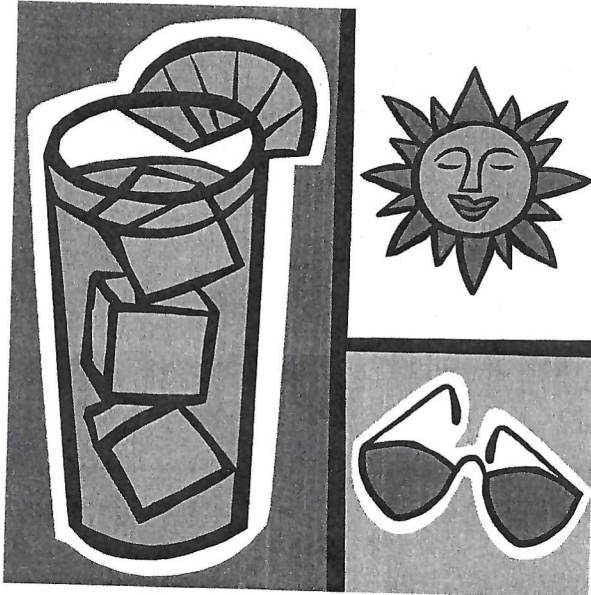
We had a fantastic response last year to our plea for donations of soda, so we are once again asking the congregation to support us. If you don't want to shop, a donation to the church in an envelope marked soda donation is also appreciated.

As the time gets closer, we will need volunteers to work the stand, set up before the event begins and to take the stand down on Monday, and cleaners and dishwashers. We would love to get more people involved. Since 2015, St. John's has been part of the festivities. It's a great way to show our community that we are here, we are involved, and we care about the town.

Ondie Neifert,
Greg Miller and Gayle Ganser
Coplay Community Days coordinator

SUMMER SCHEDULE

will be in effect beginning May 31st



Please note that we will change to our summer worship schedule on Sunday, May 31st!

Worship services during the summer months are at 9:15 AM.

Sunday School is not meeting during the summer months, but will resume in September with a rousing Rally Day celebration!

See you in church!

Reminder: Christian Education opportunity over the summer includes our annual Vacation Bible School!



St. John's Scholarship Applications Available



In August, the Scholarship Committee will present scholarship awards to college students who are active members of our congregation. All who will be attending colleges in the 2026-2027 academic year are encouraged to apply.

The Diefenderfer-Buchfeller Scholarship is presented to qualifying students in any field of study.

The Mac Adam Future Teacher Scholarship is awarded to students who have completed some college coursework in education with the intention of becoming a teacher.

The deadline to apply is Sunday May 31st. Please contact Gayle Ganser at 484-695-3696 for more detailed information about the requirements for these scholarships.

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH COPLAY, PENNSYLVANIA

COUNCIL PRESIDENT	Gregory Miller	(cell) 610-393-9421	<i>millergp@rcn.com</i>
COUNCIL VICE-PRESIDENT	Jeffrey Reinhard.	(cell) 484-201-8459	<i>reinhardwhi4@aol.com</i>
ORGANIST	Ruthann Brandt	610-262-3304	<i>Rmusic@ptd.net</i>
SEXTON	Thomas Gartner	484-860-7410	<i>fordstepside2@aol.com</i>
PARISH SECRETARY	Jane Gillespie	610-264-1111	<i>stjohnscoplay@rcn.com</i>
CO-COUNCIL SECRETARIES	Gayle Ganser	(cell) 484-695-3696	<i>pochron5@aol.com</i>
	Kathleen Sandner	(cell) 484-695-5779	<i>klmas3@aol.com</i>
FINANCIAL SECRETARY	Ondrea Neifert	(home) 610-253-3994 (cell) 610-216-9216	<i>oneifert@rcn.com</i>
TREASURER	Nancy Recker	(cell) 484-788-2917	<i>nancy_recker@yahoo.com</i>

**MEMORIAL AND HONORARIUM FORM
FATHER'S DAY 2026**

Enclosed \$ _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

BY: _____

ENVELOPE #: _____ PHONE: _____

_____ BUILDING IMPROVEMENT FUND

_____ CHURCH COOLING FUND

_____ MEMORIAL FUND

_____ ORGAN FUND

_____ GENERAL ACCOUNT

*** DEADLINE FOR SPECIAL GIFTS IS JUNE 14th ***
(IN ORDER TO BE LISTED IN THE WORSHIP BULLETIN)

*** FORMS ARE BEING TAKEN BY ONDIE NEIFERT ***

Mark your calendars for

Vacation Bible School!

This year's theme:



"Beach Trek Vacation Bible Experience!"

Mark your calendars for the week of July 20th!

This year, St. John's Church has invited Grace United Church of Christ of Northampton to join our Vacation Bible School Program this year. Thanks to our coordinator, Gary Trively and Gail Yudt for planning the events for this year's program.

All children ages 4 through 14 are encouraged to join us for our 2026 Vacation Bible School during the week of July 20th - 24th, each weekday evening from 6:30 until 8:30 PM. Children younger than 4 are very welcome with their parent(s) in attendance.

Hear five stories about Jesus: his baptism; calming the storm; telling the parable of the sower; making breakfast for the disciples and the conversion of Lydia. Play games and make crafts to remember the stories. Eat snacks suggested by each story!

We encourage you to register in advance, so we may order enough classroom materials for everyone. If you are able to let us know, please call Superintendent Gail Yudt (610-262-8325), and tell us the student's name, age, and last completed grade in school. Registration can also be done on the first night of the school (July 20th).

The Closing Program will be offered during worship at the Church Picnic on Sunday morning, July 26th. We need all our young ones to help sing! And their families to cheer us on!

Look for more information about the school in your worship bulletins, but call Superintendent Gail right away!

DONATIONS REQUESTED!

Donations are requested to help defray the costs associated with our VBS. Your generosity allows us to offer Vacation Bible School for free for our members and friends. Your gifts will help pay for course materials, craft supplies, and snacks. Please call Gail Yudt (610-262-8325) or Kathleen Sandner (610-433-1476) if you are able to make a donation.

Thanks!



THANK YOU!!

TO THE FOLLOWING MEMBERS OF ST. JOHN'S
WHO HAVE GENEROUSLY GIVEN DONATIONS
FOR THE 2026 SUNDAY SCHOOL EASTER
PARTY AND EGG HUNT

MR. & MRS. JERRY BATTENFIELD

MS. PAMELA BRADLEY

MS. RUTHANN BRANDT

MRS. JANE CORRELL

MS. CINDY CSER

MRS. PAT SCHADT

MR. & MRS. ED SEHAR

MS. KAREN SNYDER

MR. & MRS. GARY SWOYER

MS. DARLENE WOLF

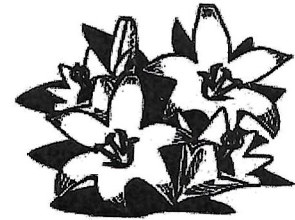
MR. & MRS. BARRY YENSER

MS. JUDY YOST

MRS. CINDY ZWETOLITZ

ANONYMOUS MEMBERS

Easter Lilies - 2026



Lilies in Loving Memory of:

Louis and Rae Battenfield by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Louis and Rae Battenfield by Amy, Joe, Joseph and Anna Ricker.
Gary Battenfield by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Gary Battenfield by Amy, Joe, Joseph and Anna Ricker.
Charmaine Boyle by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Anna and Edwin Bradley by their daughter, Pamela and grandchildren Matthew, Victoria, Emily and Eli.
Jack and Fran Cranage by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Tom and Janice Derkits by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Sarah Fox by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Gartner by Darlene Wolf.
Elizabeth Groller by Richard Groller.
Tina Groller by Richard Groller.
Dr. and Mrs. James R. Heller.
Alex Humanick by Emily Bradley.
Stephen Kosik, Jr. by Dolly Lahr.
John and Jesse Kosits by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Patricia LeCompte by Sandy and Tom Tapler.
Pearl Leibenger by Richard Groller.
All Loved Ones by Darlene Wolf.
Betty L. MacAdam by her daughter, Karen Snyder.
Eileen Mihocko by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Christian Mittermeier by Emily Bradley.
Sue Rape by Sandy and Tom Tapler.
Allen and Bernice Reppert by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Louise Rissmiller by her sister, Karen Snyder.
Our parents, John and Inez Sehar by Ed and Antoinette Sehar.
Our parents, Sam and Anne Senneca by Antoinette and Ed Sehar.
Lee and Doris Sieger by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Edith and Henry Stefany by their granddaughter, Karen Snyder.
Patty Tomino by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Matthew Yudt by Mom and Dad.

Special Gifts for Easter - 2026

Giving for Building Improvement Fund:

In loving memory of:

Louis and Rae Battenfield by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Ranald MacAdam by his daughter, Karen Snyder.

Giving for Organ Fund:

In loving memory of:

Gary Battenfield by Jerry and Rhonda Battenfield.
Mr. and Mrs. Alfred Gartner by Darlene Wolf.
All Loved Ones by Darlene Wolf.
George and Rebecca Spieker by David and Jane Ann Spieker.

Special Gifts for Easter - 2026

Giving for General Fund:

In loving memory of:

Amy L. Bogert by her mom, Cindy Cser.
Our parents, William and Helen Betz by Nancy and Bill Betz.
Harold and Margaret Brandt by Ruthann Brandt.
William and Katie Brandt by Ruthann Brandt.
Nicholas J. Fragnito by Nancy and Bill Betz.
Our parents, Roger and Lucille Jones by Nancy and Bill Betz.
Ellen and Karl Korsak by Gail and Rollie Yudt.
Stephen Kosik, Jr. by Dolly Lahr.
Patricia LeCompte by Sandy and Tom Tapler.
Patricia LeCompte by Gail and Rollie Yudt.
Loved Ones by Ondie Neifert.
John and Theresia Nickless by their daughter, Patricia Schadt.
John and Jean Quevy by their daughter, Rochelle and Gary Swoyer.
Kathy Rape by Sandy and Tom Tapler.
Sue Rape by Sandy and Tom Tapler.
Sue Rape by Gail and Rollie Yudt.
Cary Schadt by his wife, Patricia.
John and Inez Sehar by Ed and Antoinette Sehar.
Anne and Sam Senneca by Antoinette and Ed Sehar.
Evelyn (Reinhard) Snyder by Larry and Kay Snyder.
Anna and Roland Yudt by Gail and Rollie Yudt.
Matthew Yudt by Mom and Dad.
Matthew Yudt by Sandy and Tom Tapler.



Father's Day

We will be celebrating all fathers at our worship service on Sunday, June 21st. Let us honor and show our fathers what they mean to us.

Start Dad's special day by thanking God for him at St. John's.

**Don't miss
Father's Day worship
June 21st at 9:15 AM!**

St. John's Lutheran Church, Coplay, PA
 Monday, February 9th, 2026

MEMBERS PRESENT: Gayle Ganser, Roni Dech, Greg Miller, Renee Coyle, Jeff Reinhard, Kathleen Sandner, Louise Hash, Joe Danner, Nancy Recker, Pam Bradley, Danette Weidner, Jane Ann Spieker

Members Excused: Ondie Neifert, Sheila Yudt-Gower

Announcements and Communications

Received mailing introducing Native American Mission at Hope Lutheran Church in Cherryville, to be held April 11th, 2026 – No Council participation, to be posted on narthex bulletin board for congregants who might be interested.

The monthly meeting was held on 02/09/2026. President Greg Miller called the meeting to order at 7:02PM.

Greg led the council in opening prayer.

After minutes from 01/12/2026 meeting were read, Nancy moved to approve the minutes, Roni seconded. All ayes, minutes approved.

	Motion to Accept Report Made By	Motion Seconded By	Report Read— Motion Carried— Yes/No
PASTOR'S REPORT:	NA	----	----
Summary from Pastor's Report:	None	----	----
Financial Secretary's Report: Brief Report, only 2 Sundays in January	Louise	Joe	Yes
Treasurer's Report:	Jeff	Katheen	Yes

COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Christian Education:	See report: Successful Christmas Program, Friendship Sunday March 22 nd with Grace UCC.
Evangelism:	Louise will coordinate Baptism and new member admittance for 3/22, we will give gifts of cross stitch and bible, unsure who will be Pastor on that date.

Fellowship:	See report: Stuffed cabbage next pick up dinner.
Finance & Stewardship:	No meeting
Property:	Parsonage: West End to come 2/10 for rent quote. Got 3 bids for painting, 1 quote for floors. Received quote for 3 rd Street rental for ½ bath. Got quote for replacement of church front door. Will submit quotes for parsonage floors and painting once at 2 nd Congregational Meeting.
Scholarship:	No meeting
Social Media:	No meeting. May need new CD player for sound system. Will update website with March/April newsletter
Social Ministry:	Due to extreme weather, no communion to shut-ins this month. Mulling ideas for Easter gifts for shut-ins, meeting to be scheduled.
Worship and Music:	Met with Pastor Miller who will do Ash Wednesday and Easter services. Ash Wednesday – we will have ashes. Christ candle will be placed and lit per Pastor preference. Still figuring out Maundy Thursday and Good Friday but not enough time to get tableau coordinated. Pastor Miller to help re-start Altar Guild.
Picnic:	Meetings to start in March
Nominating:	No meeting necessary
Coplay Community Days:	1 st meeting to be 2/16 at borough hall.
Transition:	Joe provided profile with updates. Call committee members now meeting regularly, as able. Hope to have profile completed in March.
Unfinished Business:	Greg will talk to Janie about member rolls.
New Business:	Renee asked us to think about Applebee's burger coupons to buy and sell, like grocery gift cards. Bylaws require 2 nd congregational meeting, tentative for 3/15, quorum = 35. Joe motioned to always have 2 nd meeting in March with reports due a month before. Roni seconded. All were in favor. We no longer have an Audit Committee but need one, Ondie and Nancy need to prep before re-forming committee.
News from the Pews	Greg will continue to do cover letter for newsletter. Joe still continuing to schedule supply pastors. Working on Easter Breakfast plan. Rummage Sale posted. Committee chairs published again?
For the Good of St. John's	Very poor attendance by St. John's members at Community Thanksgiving Service this year.

	Ruthann has requested that our lectors speak into the microphone. Please let her know about future church service closures, as organist she needs to know asap.
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Motion for Adjournment	Motion Made By:	Motion Seconded By:	Meeting End Time:
	Nancy	Danette	8:40pm

The meeting ended with Council praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Co-Council Secretaries
Kathleen and Gayle

Facebook: St.John'sLutheranCoplay

St. John's Lutheran Church, Coplay, PA Monday, March 9 th , 2026
MEMBERS PRESENT: Gayle Ganser, Roni Dech, Greg Miller, Renee Coyle, Jeff Reinhard, Kathleen Sandner, Louise Hash, Joe Danner, Pam Bradley, Danette Weidner, Jane Ann Spieker, Ondie Neifert, Sheila Yudt-Gower
Members Excused: Nancy Recker

Announcements and Communications Just Property met on March 2 nd , not Property and Finance

The monthly meeting was held on 03/09/2026. President Greg Miller called the meeting to order at 7:06PM.

Greg led the council in opening prayer.

After minutes from 02/09/2026 meeting were read, Jeff moved to approve the minutes, Joe seconded. All ayes, minutes approved.
Special meeting minutes also reviewed and Louise moved to approve, seconded by Ondie. All ayes.

	Motion to Accept Report Made By	Motion Seconded By	Report Read— Motion Carried— Yes/No
PASTOR'S REPORT:	NA	----	----
Summary from Pastor's Report:	None	----	----
Financial Secretary's Report	Louise	Roni	Yes
Treasurer's Report:	Getting credit on electricity, Joe	Louise	Yes

COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Call Committee:	Joe handed out updated Summary Description, asked council members to review, will share w/Pastor Drennan and Pastor DeForest. We will meet after church on Palm Sunday to discuss revisions.
Christian Education:	Friendship Sunday was discussed, to be held March 22 nd .
Evangelism:	All is in order for Baptism 3/22. May need new source for baptism cloths. Cake and coffee reception afterwards for all.
Fellowship:	No dinners in March due to rummage sale. Volunteers need for 4/18 for next meal of baked chicken.
Finance & Stewardship:	No meetings being held unless there is an issue.
Property:	Will bring parsonage flooring and painting bids to vote at Congregational Meeting II. Cleanup garage day to be 4/25. Discussed leasing parsonage, other needed repairs. Lenten Cross should be in place 3/7.
Scholarship:	Posted in newsletter and bulletin. No applicants yet.
Social Media:	Joe updated website.
Social Ministry:	Committee has agreed on shut-in Easter gifts, will schedule delivery.
Worship and Music:	Will meet next Tuesday, 3/17 w/Pastor Miller re: Altar Guild
Picnic:	Will be held July 26 th . Menu = hot dogs, turkey & pork bbq, side dishes, desserts. Will check price with Bill @ Sam Owens catering for some items. Bingo, corn hole, guessing games to continue. Grace UCC invited.

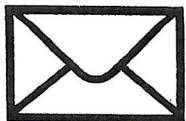
Nominating:	No meeting necessary
Coplay Community Days:	Committee is donating \$10k each to Coplay Borough and Coplay Police. Most likely will also donate to repave IRT in Coplay. New band is South Penn Dixie, new food vendor is Marley's Kitchen. See more on Facebook.
Transition:	Joe provided update Summary Description to be reviewed by Council for any changes.
Unfinished Business:	Pre-wrap baked goods for rummage sale. Sam Owens fundraiser -10% donated for all purchases, pick any Sunday – 6/7 was suggested. Applebee's fundraiser can be gift cards, burger coupons or carry out.
New Business:	Need more volunteers to open church on Sunday mornings at 8:30. Parsonage updates: West End suggested \$2000 rent (\$200 goes to WE) or rent to member @\$1800 ourselves. Ondie made motion to not use WE, \$2000 rent plus utilities, send rent to Nancy, seconded by Jeff. All ayes with Greg abstaining, Kathleen had left early. Property and finance will work together to develop lease.
News from the Pews	Need to have Janie update committee chairperson list for next newsletter.
For the Good of St. John's	Frank Z., services at Reichl on Saturday morning. Tommy still at Muhlenberg, retaining water, A-Fib. His appreciation luncheon was well attended, thank you to all.

Motion for Adjournment	Motion Made By:	Motion Seconded By:	Meeting End Time:
	Jeff	Roni	8:24pm

The meeting ended with Council praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Co-Council Secretaries
Kathleen and Gayle



THANK YOU
for using your little
WORLD HUNGER ENVELOPE!

Annual Congregational Meeting - Part II
St. John's Lutheran Church, Coplay, PA
March 15th, 2026

Council President Greg Miller called the meeting to order at 11:20am.

A quorum of 38 members were present.

Council Co-Secretary, Kathleen Sandner, read the minutes from the Annual Congregational Meeting, Part I, which had been held on December 21st, 2025. Danette Weidner made a motion to approve the minutes and Roni Dech seconded it.

Greg briefly referred to each annual committee report in order, thanking heads and members of each group and asking for questions from the congregation.

Karen Haines commented during review of the Fellowship Report that they will be continuing to provide pick-up meals in April, May and June.

Greg said council is mulling activities for the picnic such as face painting and or a magic show. Cornhole will continue.

Jeff Reinhard mentioned during the Property Committee Report review, that they could use more volunteer members, as could all our other committees.

According to Greg, a decision on summer services, inside or outside, is not yet firm.

Helmut Fried asked a question about the amount our organist is paid. The amounts on the budget report were clarified. One amount is for RuthAnn, the other smaller amount is for supply (fill-in) organists.

New Business:

Greg stated that the 1st Annual Rummage Sale was a success, with approximately \$2001, in profit, with leftover baked goods for a free will offering. Remaining goods will be donated to a local charitable organization.

Greg informed the congregation that the parsonage, now empty, is in the process of being updated to be rented. Our Property Management Company, West End, suggested a monthly rent of \$2000. We will use a lease with a "120 day notice clause", allowing us to end the lease early, with the proper notice, if we need it for a pastor. There is no estimated timeline yet for moving renters in.

He said it was recommended by council that we use Lehigh Valley Hardwood Flooring to remove the carpet, sand and re-finish the floors at a cost of \$6965. The congregation voted and the bid was approved. All in favor. Work is to start on the parsonage floors this week.

The painter recommended by council, is Gregory's Home Improvement of Northampton, with a bid of \$5725. A vote was taken and the congregation voted to approve this bid.

There was some discussion about cleaning ductwork after flooring and painting work. Inspection and cleaning of the fireplace chimney will be scheduled after the floors are complete but prior to painting, if possible.

Danette Weidner made a motion to adjourn and it was seconded by Beth Napoli. Greg thanked all for attending and the meeting ended at 11:46am.

Respectfully submitted,
Council Co-Secretary

A LITTLE R & R (Reminders & Recipes)



JULY/AUGUST NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: JUNE 20TH!

Please have all articles for the July/August newsletter in the Newsletter "mailbox" outside the church office by Friday, June 20th. Thank you!

WHEN YOU OR A LOVED ONE goes into the hospital please tell them that you are a member of St. John's Lutheran Church in Coplay. Use our code #277. Please call Council President Greg Miller (610-393-9421) or Vice-President Jeff Reinhard (484-201-8459) for prayer. This will also ensure that we know and can visit you.

HEAVENLY POUND CAKE

1½ cups sugar
½ cup shortening
¼ cup butter, softened
4 eggs
½ tsp. salt

½ cup milk
1 tsp. vanilla
2 cups flour
2 tps. baking powder

1. Combine sugar, shortening, butter.
 2. Add eggs and vanilla.
 3. In separate bowl, mix flour, salt and baking powder.
 4. Alternately add the flour mixture and milk to the sugar mixture.
 5. Beat very well.
 6. Bake at 350 degrees for 1 hour in a greased bundt cake pan.
- Enjoy!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!
to Everyone Celebrating
their Birthday in
MAY and JUNE



Special Happy Birthday to: Pat Worman on May 23rd and Dolly Lahr on June 14th!
Pat resides at Brookdale Evesham Senior Living, Apt. C261,1 Brendenwood Drive, Voorhees, NJ 08043.
Dolly resides at Bethlehem South 448D, 2021 Westgate Drive, Bethlehem 18017

God Bless You and Your Special Day!!!

MAY VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

MAY 3

Acolyte – Michael Ganser
 Lector – Cindy Zwetolitz
 Ushers – Antoinette Sehar*, Ed Sehar
 and Eli Tomecek
 Communion Assistant – Karen Haines

MAY 10

Acolyte – Lara Williams
 Lector – Renee Coyle
 Ushers – Antoinette Sehar*, Ed Sehar
 and Eli Tomecek

MAY 17

Acolyte – Blake Terfinko
 Lector – Sheila Yudt-Gower
 Ushers – Antoinette Sehar*, Ed Sehar
 and Eli Tomecek

MAY 24

Acolyte – Michael Ganser
 Lector – Eli Tomecek
 Ushers – Antoinette Sehar*, Ed Sehar
 and Eli Tomecek
 Communion Assistant – Louise Hash

MAY 31

Lector – Joe Danner
 Ushers – Antoinette Sehar*, Ed Sehar
 and Eli Tomecek



JUNE VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

JUNE 7

Lector – Michael Ganser
 Ushers – Greg Miller*, Gayle Ganser
 Karen Haines
 Communion Assistant – Joe Danner

JUNE 14

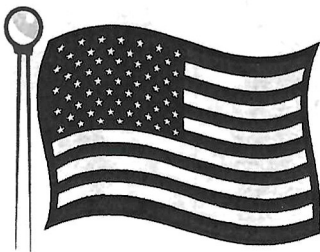
Lector – Pam Bradley
 Ushers – Greg Miller*, Gayle Ganser
 Karen Haines

JUNE 21

Lector – Sandy Tapler
 Ushers – Greg Miller*, Gayle Ganser
 Karen Haines

JUNE 28

Lector – Greg Miller
 Ushers – Greg Miller*, Gayle Ganser
 Karen Haines




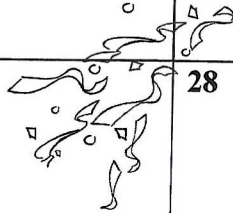






MEMORIAL DAY OBSERVANCE

Please join us on Sunday, May 24th, to remember our loved ones who gave their lives defending the cause of freedom for our great United States of America and for the whole world.

Bring your families and friends and let us remember together our departed servicepersons.

Calendar for May 2026




SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY	WEDNESDAY	THURSDAY	FRIDAY	SATURDAY
<p>CELEBRATING...</p> <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center;"> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>HE IS RISEN</p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <p><i>...our Lord's Resurrection during the Easter Season!</i></p> <p><i>...God the Holy Spirit during the Pentecost Season!</i></p> </div> <div style="text-align: center;">  <p>PENTECOST</p> </div> </div>					1	2
<p>3 HOLY COMMUNION 9:00 AM: Sunday School 10:30 AM: EASTER V HOLY COMMUNION</p>	<p>4 6:00 PM: Picnic Committee 6:30 PM: Evangelism Committee 7:00 PM: Social Media Committee 7:30 PM: Property Committee</p>	<p>5 7:00 PM: First Year Confirmation</p>	<p>6 7:00 PM: Senior Choir Rehearsal 8:00 PM: Worship & Music Committee</p>	7	<p>8 * DEADLINE * BAKED HAM PRE-ORDERS</p>	9
<p>10 Mother's Day 9:00 AM: Sunday School 10:30 AM: EASTER VI WORSHIP SERVICE: Mother's Day emphasis</p>	<p>11 7:00 PM: Church Council</p>	<p>12 7:00 PM: First Year Confirmation</p>	<p>13 7:00 PM: Senior Choir Rehearsal</p>	<p>14</p> 	<p>15</p>	<p>16</p> <p>4 - 5:30 PM: BAKED HAM DINNER PICK-UPS</p>
<p>17 EASTER VII 9:00 AM: Sunday School 10:30 AM: EASTER VII WORSHIP SERVICE</p>	<p>18</p>	<p>19 * VOTE! * 7:00 PM: First Year Confirmation</p>	<p>20</p>	<p>21</p>	<p>22</p>	<p>23</p>
<p>24 Pentecost 9:00 AM: Sunday School Appreciation Breakfast 10:30 AM: PENTECOST HOLY COMMUNION: Confirmation Remembering those who served in the Military</p>	<p>25</p> <p style="font-size: 1.5em; font-style: italic;">Memorial Day</p>	<p>26 3:15 PM: Altar Guild</p>	<p>27</p> 	<p>28</p>	<p>29</p>	<p>30</p>
<p>31 THE HOLY TRINITY 9:15 AM: HOLY TRINITY WORSHIP SERVICE Social Hall worship</p> <p style="text-align: center;"> SUMMER SCHEDULE BEGINS  </p>	<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p style="font-style: italic;">Remember the brave men and women who made the ultimate sacrifice for our freedom...</p>  </div>			<div style="border: 2px solid black; padding: 10px;">  <p>SUMMER SCHEDULE Social Hall Worship at 9:15 AM begins May 31st!</p> </div>		

Calendar for June 2026



SUMMER SCHEDULE

Social Hall
Worship at 9:15 AM

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 6:00 PM: Picnic Committee 6:30 PM: Evangelism Committee 7:00 PM: Social Media Committee 7:30 PM: Property Committee	2	3 8:00 PM: Worship and Music Committee	4 6:30 PM: VBS Preparations	5 * DEADLINE: HOAGIE ORDERS! *	6
7 PENTECOST II 9:15 AM: PENTECOST II HOLY COMMUNION: Summer worship	8 7:00 PM: Church Council	9	10	11	12	13 HOAGIE PICK-UP 11:30 - 12:30
14 PENTECOST III 9:15 AM: PENTECOST III WORSHIP SERVICE: Summer worship 	15	16	<div style="border: 1px solid black; padding: 5px; width: fit-content; margin: 0 auto;"> WEEKLY VBS PREP NIGHTS? (Call Kathleen Sandner at 484-695-5779) </div>		19	20 6:35 PM: ST. JOHN'S night at IRON PIGS 
21 FATHER'S DAY 9:15 AM: PENTECOST IV WORSHIP SERVICE: Father's Day emphasis 	22	23	24	25	26	27
28 PENTECOST V 9:15 AM: PENTECOST V WORSHIP SERVICE: Summer worship	29	30	<div style="border: 2px dashed black; padding: 10px;"> VBS Preparation Nights start June 4th at 6:30 PM! (Help make backgrounds and decorations for the Social Hall) Please help us prepare for another fun-filled week learning about Jesus! Check your worship bulletins or contact Kathleen Sandner (484-695-5779) for dates and times of other "Prep" nights. </div>			