

News from the Pews

www.stjohnscoplay.com

November/December 2025

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

A Word From Council President...

The fall season is upon us, and that means the Sunday School Halloween party (Sunday, October 26th) and the annual Coplay Halloween parade (Tuesday, October 21st). These are two events that the members of your St. John's have strongly supported over the years.

Our community dinners continue monthly with Baked Ziti in October (25th) and our annual Thanksgiving Filling Sale slated for Saturday, November 22nd. Pre-orders are due to Karen Haines by Friday, November 14th at 610-653-2816. The cost is \$9.00 for a 2 lbs. pan and \$25.00 for a 13" x 9" pan.

St. John's will be hosting the Whitehall Coplay Hunger initiative free community meal on Tuesday, November 18 in our Social Hall, from 4:00 PM to 6:00 PM. The meal is being prepared by Bill Loy and the Sam Owens crew and we will be serving the meal, starting with the Social Hall setup at 3:00 PM. If you can help, please let Gayle Ganser know at 484-695-3696.

The Church Council and the Call Committee met with Pastor Drennan and Bishop deForrest on September 23rd to discuss the call process. The Call Committee will re-do the ministry site profile, which is comparable to a resume for attracting pastors who may be looking to move on from their current congregations. More to come on the Call process as it progresses.

We have been able to secure Supply Pastors for the remaining services for the months of October, November, and December, including Christmas Eve which will be a candlelight service at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, December 24th. I want to take this opportunity to thank your Church Council members who stepped up to conduct Sunday services when supply Pastors were not available. THANK YOU!

Respectfully,

Greg

Greg Miller

Church Council President

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

"A Mighty Fortress is our God..."



Our First Communicant celebrated his first communion with us on Reformation Sunday, October 26th. Family members and friends joined our congregation for this milestone. Please continue to keep him in your prayers as he continues to grow in faith:



This cup
is the new
covenant
in my blood,
Which is
poured
out for
you.
Luke 22:20

*Congratulations and blessings
to our First Communicant!*

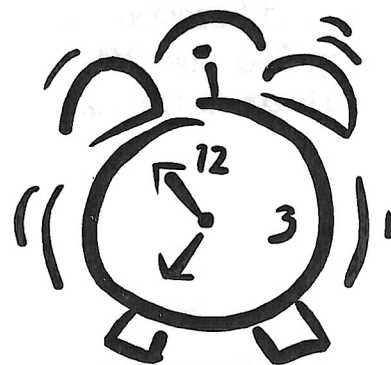
RYAN ALLEN CORRELL

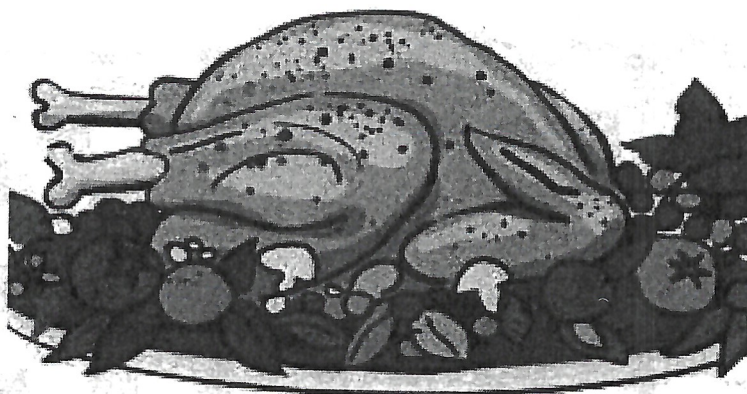
son of Mr. and Mrs. Jacob (Jessica) Correll

Don't forget...

Daylight Saving ends at 2 AM on
Sunday morning, November 2nd.

Turn your clocks **BACK** one hour on
Saturday night, November 1st!





THANKSGIVING FILLING SALE

ST. JOHN'S LUTHERAN CHURCH

18 S. 3RD ST, COPLAY

Make your Thanksgiving Day preparations easier with a pan of St. John's delicious potato filling!

2 lb pan	\$9.00
13 x 9 inch pan	\$25.00

PRE-ORDERS ONLY

Call Karen Haines

610-653-2816

By **FRIDAY November 14th**

Tell her your phone number too!

PICK UP AT THE CHURCH:

Sat, November 22nd from 12-2

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

Help is needed Saturday morning, November 15 to prepare for the filling

– cutting onions, celery and bread.

PLEASE LET KAREN KNOW IF YOU CAN HELP- THANK YOU!

Do you have a “standing order” for altar flowers?

If you have a standing order for altar flowers, please check with me so we can be sure you have the Sunday(s) you want.

If you would like to have a standing order (your flower sponsorship remains “on the books” each year), please contact me.

The cost is \$30 per vase.

Note: Please remember to take your flowers home with you. There are vases in the kitchen — just rinse and return the vases when you are finished.

~ Antoinette Sehar
610-390-6821



SUNDAY BULLETIN SPONSORSHIPS

If you have had a “standing” request for bulletin sponsorship(s) in the past, or would like to sponsor a bulletin for a particular Sunday, please call me to confirm your special dates on the 2025 schedule.

The cost of bulletin sponsorship is \$10 per Sunday. Thanks!

~ Antoinette Sehar
610-390-6821



VETERANS DAY

On Tuesday, November 11th, we will honor those members of our congregation who have served or are serving the cause of freedom in the armed forces of the United States of America.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE!

59th Annual Coplay Community Thanksgiving Service

This year will be the 59th year the churches of Coplay have united in thanksgiving to our gracious God. So don't miss this Thanksgiving when we all get together *at Redeemed Christian Church of God* (17 North Third Street), joined by our friends from that congregation and from St. Peter Roman Catholic Church on Sunday, November 23rd, at 7:00 PM.

Our Thanksgiving Worship will celebrate God's blessings through his Word, special music, and more. Flowers will be provided by the Coplay Garden Club and a free-will offering will be received for the Coplay Public Library.

We are invited to share time in fellowship again this year after the service.

Come, and give thanks!



REMEMBERING OUR DEPARTED LOVED ONES

On All Saints Sunday, November 2nd, we will remember all members of St. John's who have passed away since last All Saints Sunday. They are:

Rebecca A. Spieker
Faye R. Hoanzl
Ruth C. Huffort
Rodney A. Worman
Mary E. Laub
Ronald R. Cortright

Please join us as we celebrate God's gift of eternal life to our departed loved ones.

COPLAY HALLOWEEN PARADE

Members and friends represented St. John's to our community by marching in the Coplay Halloween Parade. We carried our "St. John's" banner and our horizontal banner that proclaimed "FRIENDSHIP KNOWS NO BOUNDARIES"! A big "THANK YOU" to Sunday School Teachers and Grace UCC who donated "tons" of candy which we had fun giving out along the way, to Joe Danner for his pickup truck and to Jeremy Snyder for his trailer. As always, the Coplay Saengerbund provided much-appreciated hot dogs, snacks, and beverages afterward.

*Thanks to all our marchers,
to all who cheered us on.*

What a great witness to our community!



During the holidays it is especially important for us to share everything with which God has blessed us. As you prepare your holiday menus and shopping lists, please remember those who are less fortunate.

Donations can be made to the COPLAY FOOD BANK at any time by bringing non-perishable food items to Borough Hall or by dropping them off at the church. Please put food items in a bag clearly marked "For Coplay Food Bank."

Monetary contributions are also welcomed (please make checks payable to the church; this money will be used to purchase gift cards from Giant for the Food Bank).

Although all food gifts are appreciated immensely, items that are considered extra-special include:

canned sweet potatoes
boxed or pouch potatoes
canned fruit
peanut butter
jelly
canned meats and entrees (like Spaghettios)

IMPORTANT—PLEASE POST!

ST. JOHN'S CHURCH and SUNDAY SCHOOL

ADVENT/CHRISTMAS EVENTS



Sunday, November 30th

9:00 AM Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal
10:30 AM ADVENT I WORSHIP SERVICE

Sunday, December 7th



9:00 AM Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal
10:30 AM ADVENT II HOLY COMMUNION
(copies of proposed 2026 Budget available)

11:30 AM Christmas Decorating of the Sanctuary

Sunday, December 14th

9:00 AM Sunday School Christmas Program Rehearsal
10:30 AM ADVENT III WORSHIP SERVICE:
Annual Congregational Meeting – Part One

★ ★ ★ DEADLINE for sponsoring Christmas Eve Poinsettias
(call Antoinette Sehar at 610-390-6821)

★ ★ ★ DEADLINE for sponsoring Christmas Memorials/Honoraria
(call Ondie Neifert at 610-216-9216)

Sunday, December 21st

9:00 AM Christmas Program Final Preparations and Gathering
10:30 AM ADVENT IV WORSHIP SERVICE:
SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM
“*Christmas Customs*”

11:30 AM Reception in Social Hall

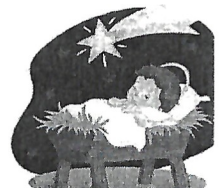
2:00 PM Caroling to our shut-ins; hot chocolate and cookies for everyone
afterward, back at the church!

Wednesday, December 24th
(CHRISTMAS EVE!)

7:00 PM CHRISTMAS EVE Candlelight Holy Communion Service

Thursday, December 25th

Merry Christmas!!!



Sunday, December 28th

*** *No Sunday School* ***
10:30 AM CHRISTMAS I WORSHIP SERVICE:
Celebrating Jesus' Birth;
Christmas Carol Sing (*bring your choices*)

Sunday, January 4th

9:00 AM Sunday School resumes
10:30 AM CHRISTMAS II HOLY COMMUNION

CAN YOU HELP WITH GIFTS?

Christmas gifts for St. John's shut-ins, that is! These semi-annual visits with gifts (Easter is the other time) are an essential way we show our love to our members who can no longer attend worship.

Our Social Ministry Committee which handles this ministry, met on October 23 to discuss Christmas gifts for the shut-ins. Further meetings and delivery dates will be announced. If you would like to help but can't make the meeting (e.g., you work during the day), let Louise know at 484-294-6456.

Thank you in advance for helping with this Christmas ministry!

~ Louise Hash
Social Ministry Committee Chair

Facebook: St.John'sLutheranCoplay

HELP US SPREAD HOLIDAY JOY TO THOSE IN NEED



We have a holiday tradition at The Lutheran Home at Topton called Christmas Sharing. We create a "store" in which the residents are treated to a holiday shopping experience. They shop for a gift for themselves which is lovingly wrapped and delivered to them Christmas morning by Santa and Mrs. Claus. There is no cost to the resident. Most of our residents would not receive a gift and experience the joy of the holiday season without this tradition.



The most popular items are listed below. ***New, unwrapped items can only be accepted.*** Please bring your donations to church and place them in the boxes in both Narthexes in the church. Deadline for donations are November 21st, call Louise Hash at 484-294-6456 for more information. Thank You!

Items to Purchase

Men Pajamas -- Small to 3XL

Women Pajamas — Medium to 3XL

Blankets

Sunday School Christmas Program 2025:

“Christmas Customs”

This year's Sunday School Christmas program will share and explain the many Christmas Customs that are practiced throughout our nations.

Please join us for the Sunday School's Christmas program on Sunday, December 21st, during the 10:30 AM worship service.



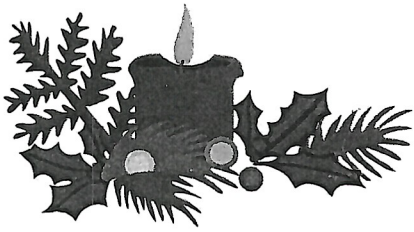
Sing Christmas Carols to our shut-ins!

St. John's invites all members and friends to join the festivities when we go caroling to our shut-in members on Sunday afternoon, December 21st.

We will leave the church for caroling at 2:00 PM. We'll visit as many of our shut-ins as we can. Afterward, we'll return to church for hot chocolate and lots of cookies!



So join us for this most wonderful annual tradition — it means so much to share Christmas with those who cannot come to church services anymore. See you then!



The Hanging of the Greens...

Beautiful Christmas decorations don't just happen! We need lots of helping hands to prepare our sanctuary for all the Christmas festivities.

Join us on **Sunday, December 7th** immediately following worship, for the decoration of the church for Christmas! Help adorn the tree, set up the end-of-pew candlesticks, hang the wreaths, and set out the creche.



...and the Unhanging of the Greens

We'll be taking down all our festive decorations on **Sunday, January 11th**, after church.

We need just as many helpers to take down and put away the decorations as we do to put them up.

Please help if you can!



SPECIAL NOTE: With a good turnout, both decorating and undecorating can be done very quickly, with a joyous time had by all. Please plan to help on both dates. Bring your favorite Christmas music to "listen while we work!" Thanks!

Christmas is coming!

It is time to start thinking about ordering Poinsettias! The plants will be ordered from Hometown Floral and will cost \$17 per plant.

The deadline for ordering is Sunday, December 14th, as the order needs to be placed that week. The poinsettias will be delivered in time for the Sunday School Christmas program on Sunday, December 21st.

If you would like to place an order please contact Antoinette Sehar at 610-390-6821 (or for any questions), fill out the form below, and include payment with your order.

ORDER FORM FOR CHRISTMAS POINSETTIAS



I wish to order Poinsettias to decorate the church on Christmas.
Please order _____ poinsettias for me at \$17 per plant.

Place in memory of: _____

Place in honor of: _____

Given By: _____

Name _____ Envelope # _____

Phone number _____ Total \$ enclosed: _____

*Deadline for orders is December 14th. Orders must be paid for at the time of ordering.
Orders are being taken by Antoinette Sehar (610-390-6821).*

CHRISTMAS MEMORIAL/HONORARIUM OPPORTUNITIES

In addition to poinsettias, the members of St. John's may remember and/or honor loved ones this Christmas Season with contributions to the following special funds:

Building Improvement Fund

Church Cooling Fund

Memorial Fund

Organ Fund

General Account

We are always grateful for the donations we receive for our special funds at any time of the year. *If you wish to have your gift included in the Christmas Eve worship bulletin, please be sure to give your contribution and your completed form to Ondie Neifert by **SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th**.*

Many thanks for your Special Funds donations.

MEMORIAL AND HONORARIUM FORM CHRISTMAS 2025

Enclosed \$ _____

IN MEMORY OF: _____

IN HONOR OF: _____

BY: _____

ENVELOPE #: _____ PHONE: _____

_____ BUILDING IMPROVEMENT FUND

_____ CHURCH COOLING FUND

_____ MEMORIAL FUND

_____ ORGAN FUND

_____ GENERAL ACCOUNT

FORMS ARE BEING TAKEN BY ONDIE NEIFERT

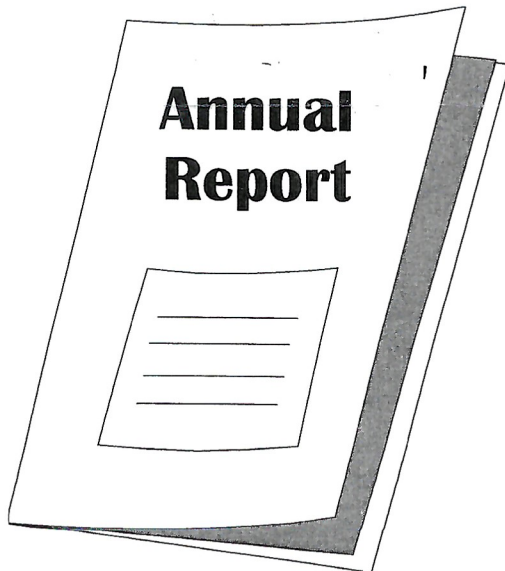
*Note: Memorials received by December 14th
will be listed in the Christmas Eve Worship Bulletin.*

NOMINATIONS FOR COUNCIL ELECTIONS

We are fortunate to already have some nominees for Church Council for 2026. In addition to these, the Nominating Committee is looking for others interested in guiding the ministry of St. John's. If you or any other confirmed member would like to be placed on the Ballot for Church Council, please call Council President Greg Miller as soon as possible at 610-393-9421 (or email him at millergrp@rcn.com). Thanks!

COPIES OF THE PROPOSED 2026 BUDGET AVAILABLE SUNDAY, DECEMBER 7th

ELECTIONS AND 2026 BUDGET CONSIDERATION
AT
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – PART ONE,
SUNDAY, DECEMBER 14th,
IMMEDIATELY FOLLOWING WORSHIP!

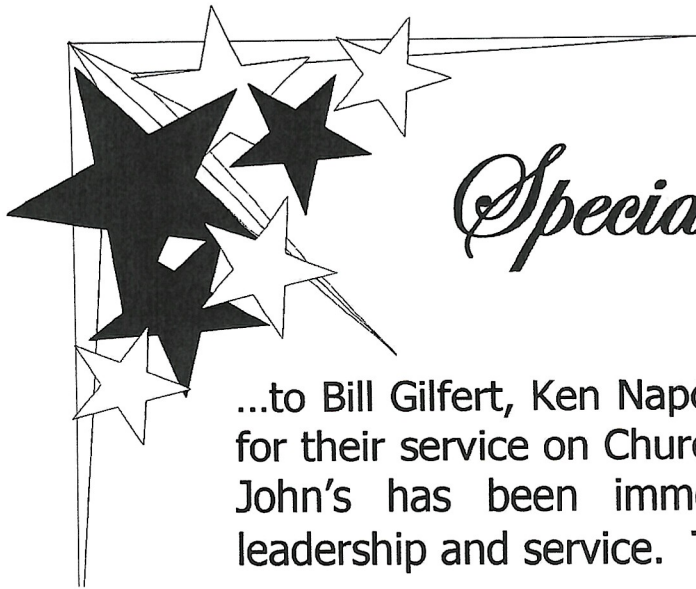


***Calling all Staff,
Chairpersons,
Group Leaders, etc.!***

Please complete and submit your Annual Report as soon as possible after the first of the year. They need to be compiled before the Annual Congregational Meeting – Part Two. Help us know and celebrate all you've done!

COPIES OF THE 2025 ANNUAL REPORTS AVAILABLE MID-JANUARY

ANNUAL REPORTS FOR 2025 AND ANY ADDITIONAL CONGREGATIONAL BUSINESS
AT
ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING – PART TWO



Special Thanks

...to Bill Gilfert, Ken Napoli, Beth Napoli and Jeremy Snyder for their service on Church Council. Our ministry here at St. John's has been immeasurably strengthened by your leadership and service. Thanks again!

2026 OFFERING ENVELOPES

Please stop in the Social Hall to pick up your offering envelopes for 2026, if you haven't already done so. If you know that someone will be unable to pick up their envelopes, please deliver theirs to them.

THANK YOU!

The Finance and Stewardship Committee

Take a Break!

After their Christmas Program on Sunday, December 21st, our Sunday School classes will take a break on Sunday, December 28th.

Sunday School will resume on Sunday, January 4th with a special Christmas craft at 9 AM sharp!

St. John's Lutheran Church, Coplay, PA Monday August 11 ,2025
MEMBERS PRESENT: Ondie Neifert,Joe Danner,Gayle Ganser,Bill Gilfert, Roni Dech, Greg Miller, Renee Coyle, Jeff Reinhard, Louise Hash, Nancy Recker
Members Excused: Beth Napoli,Ken Napoli,Jeremy Snyder, Kathleen Sandner

Announcements and Communications
1. Ken and Beth Napoli plan to leave the council.
2. Insurance Claim for Plumbing was denied because the amount was below deductible.
3. Coplay Boro is requesting to inspect rentals. Greg will check if needed since West End inspects.

The monthly meeting was held on Monday August 11 , 2025. President Greg Miller called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Greg Miller led the council in opening prayer.

After minutes from the June 9,2025 meeting were read, Jeff moved to approve the minutes. Roni seconded. All ayes, minutes approved.

After minutes from the Special Council Meeting (6/22/25) were read, Nancy moved to approve the minutes. Bill seconded. All ayes, minutes approved.

After minutes from the Congregational Meeting Concerning the Sewer 6/22/25 were read, Ondie moved to approve the minutes. Renee seconded. All ayes, minutes approved.

	Motion to Accept Report Made By	Motion Seconded By	Report Read—Motion Carried—Yes/No
PASTOR'S REPORT:	No Report		

Summary from Pastor's Report:			
Financial Secretary's Report:	Jeff	Joe	YES
Treasurer's Report:	Joe	Louise	Yes

COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Christian Education:	• VBS was successful, • Thanks to Penny Lahue and Gary Trively for excellent planning.
Evangelism:	• No Meeting, • Elements will need to be blessed before giving communion to shut ins.
Fellowship:	• 120 sandwiches were made for the pick up luncheon, donations totaled \$652. • Volunteers were needed 8/17/25 to make Cabbage and Noodles for CCD. • September meal-TBD • Fellowship does not need to feel forced to provide all food for all church activities.
Finance & Stewardship:	• No Meeting
Property:	• No Meeting • Greg will touch base with the Boyers about the timeframe of moving to their new home.
Scholarship:	• Scholarships were awarded to Ava and Gabe Gower.

Social Media:	• No meeting • The website is updated. • The carillon will be cleaned when the weather is cooler.
Social Ministry:	• No meeting
Worship and Music:	• We have Pastoral coverage for 9/7 and 9/21 • Rally Sunday is Sept. 7th. • Harvest Home will be Sept. 21st.
Picnic:	• Picnic went well, small group • The magician was entertaining. • Some food left over, many donations, so costs were minimal.
Nominating:	• None
Coplay Community Days:	• CCD Mtg. is 8/18 @ 7. • Set up on Thursday @ 5. • Clean up Monday @ 5.
Transition:	• The Committee and Council completed the Synod form, waiting for the next move from Synod. • Small discussion of 6261.
Unfinished Business:	• Fundraising ideas were tabled until next month.
New Business:	• Whitehall Coplay Hunger Initiative asked if we want to continue to be scheduled- decided to see how the first one goes. • Update of prayer list will begin. • Pastor Drennan has updated call procedure • Pastoral care should be sent to Greg. • Property Insurance due in Sept. We have made updates to snake and CO2 detectors, will look to see if there can be a deduction in cost. Joe will look into it. • Changed Power to a lower rate. • Boiler will need servicing before cooler weather.
News from the Pews	• Updated Committee Chairs • Discuss who will write the Newsletter cover.

	● Rally Day planned ● Youth Group TBD ● Blessing of Animals- on hold ● Holy Communion/ Confirmation- TBD ● Watch Party to Continue
For the Good of St. John's	● Bill and Louise will meet to update Shut ins and illness list ● Attempts to call/ visit shut in more consistently.

Motion for Adjournment	Motion Made By:	Motion Seconded By:	Meeting End Time:
	Nancy	Roni	9:19 PM

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

Respectfully Submitted,

Gayle Ganser, Council Secretary

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>
COUNCIL SECRETARY	Gayle Ganser	(cell) 484-695-3696	<i>pochron5@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>

St. John's Lutheran Church, Coplay, PA Monday September 8 ,2025
MEMBERS PRESENT: Ondie Neifert,Joe Danner,Gayle Ganser,Bill Gilbert, Roni Dech, Greg Miller, Renee Coyle, Jeff Reinhard, Kathleen Sandner, Louise Hash, Jeremy Snyder, Nancy Recker
Members Excused:

Announcements and Communications None
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The monthly meeting was held on Monday September 8 , 2025. President Greg Miller called the meeting to order at 7:03PM.

Jeff Reinhard led the council in opening prayer.

After minutes from the August 11, 2025, meeting were read, Nancy moved to approve the minutes. Kathleen seconded. All ayes, minutes approved.

	Motion to Accept Report Made By	Motion Seconded By	Report Read— Motion Carried— Yes/No
PASTOR'S REPORT:	NONE	NA	NA
Summary from Pastor's Report:	NA	NA	NA
Financial Secretary's Report:	Jeff	Joe	YES
Treasurer's Report:	Louise	Roni	YES

COMMITTEE REPORTS	
Christian Education:	• June Appreciation Breakfast, Michael Ganser's confirmation, and VBS were all successful. • Sunday School kicks off on 9/7 • Planned participation in the parade, 10/21.

Evangelism:	• No meeting • The Yenser's requested a November baptism for their baby. Will coordinate with them a date when a Pastor is available.
Fellowship:	• Shepard's Pie dinner on 9/20 from 4-5:30 pick up. Volunteers needed at 10 AM for prep. Donations accepted.
Finance & Stewardship:	• No meeting/report
Property:	• The boiler has been fixed. • Fire Suppression system will be checked. • Passed Coplay Boro inspection. • Parsonage rented through October. • Property Insurance new policy information not available yet.
Scholarship:	• No report
Social Media:	• Website will be updated for September.
Social Ministry:	• Meetings will begin in Nov. • Xmas gift ideas are set. • The committee is going to split up shut ins and begin visits.
Worship and Music:	• Ruthann has vacation 9/28 and 10/19, and Susan Schrant will substitute.
Picnic:	• Checking with the American Club about catering restrictions.
Nominating:	• We will be looking to fill 4 seats. Bill and Jeremy cannot serve another term.
Coplay Community Days:	• Expenses were \$50.00 because of donations and Thrivent Cards. • Community Days gets \$1196.25. • St John's profit- \$6430.75 • 2024 profit- \$6140.00
Transition:	• Committee formed • Profile complete
News from the Pews	• Greg will write a cover letter. • Need to get confirmation that the Newsletter will remain every 2 months.

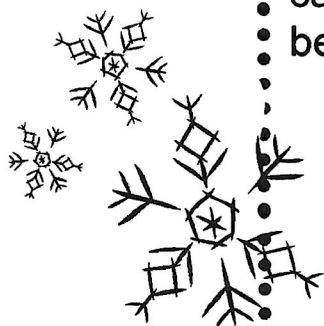
Unfinished Business:	Fundraising Ideas- Restaurant nights where we get a percentage of sales. Samuel Owens will do it. We will look into other local restaurants.
New Business:	- Ushering schedule will be adjusted. - Gayle will create a schedule for coverage of services and share with Janie and council. - Need to look into Holy Communion curriculum for Ryan Correll, and first year confirmation for Hailey Correll. - Contact the synod for curriculum ideas if ours is not found. - Halloween participation- Check with Gail Yudt to complete the application. We will look into using Jeremy Snyder's trailer, and inquire if Grace UCC wants to walk with us.
For the Good of St. John's	- Cindy and Louise hope to begin communion to shut-ins in October. - The Evangelism Committee is happy for new members. The committee only meets when concerns come up. - Forward any prayer requests to Bill or Louise.

Motion for Adjournment	Motion Made By:	Motion Seconded By:	Meeting End Time:
	Nancy	Ondie	8:21PM

Meeting ended with Council praying the Lord's Prayer.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gayle Ganser, Council Secretary



In the event of severely inclement weather, any cancellation(s) of our Sunday School and/or church can be viewed on:

- ✳ www.stjohnscoplay.com
- ✳ Facebook: St.John'sLutheranCoplay
- ✳ WFMZ-TV (only when conditions are extreme)

ST. JOHN'S ANNUAL CHRISTMAS ANGEL TREE!



Special Christmas opportunity is our Angel Tree. Coordinator Cindy Zwetolitz (610-261-9052) will have our Angel Tree ready in mid--November! Please see Cindy downstairs, before or after church if you are interested in sponsoring a gift. Every year your generous giving brings Christmas joy to dozens of less fortunate children. Many thanks for your generosity!

Christmas Eve Worship Change

This year, St. John's is celebrating worship service at 7 PM on Christmas Eve. As always, the 7:00 PM service will include Holy Communion and our favorite Christmas Carols, as well as our traditional candle lighting.

The Christmas Eve worship will be on Facebook live for viewing at 7 PM or any time after that.

Joy to the world, the Lord is come!

Holiday Giving

Please use the enclosed envelope to contribute as generously as you can to the ELCA's World Hunger Appeal. No one makes our dollars go further than our larger Church's outreach both right here and abroad. Yes, there are many who face hunger and other needs at Christmas, and your generosity can make the difference. Thank you!

A LITTLE R & R (Reminders & Recipes)



JANUARY/FEBRUARY NEWSLETTER

DEADLINE: DECEMBER 20TH!

Please have all articles for the January/February newsletter in the Newsletter "mailbox" outside the church office by Saturday, December 20th. Thank

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.

CHRISTMAS STREUSEL SQUARES

½ cup sugar
1 stick butter, softened
1 ½ tps. vanilla extract
1 egg, beaten
1 cup sifted flour

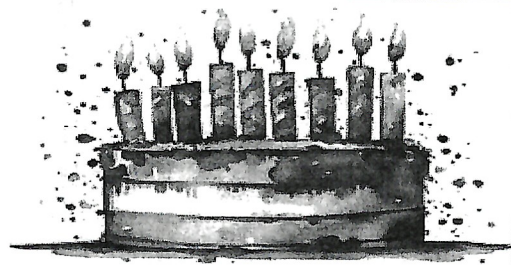
½ cup red colored sugar
½ cup green colored sugar
1 tsp. cinnamon
1 cup pecans, chopped

1. Grease large shallow baking dish.
 2. Mix together sugar and butter until creamy.
 3. Add vanilla and egg; then gradually add the flour.
 4. Spread mixture in dish. Combine the colored sugars and cinnamon, press lightly over batter.
 5. Sprinkle nuts on top, pressing down lightly.
 6. Bake in preheated oven at 350 for 30 minutes.
 7. Cut in small squares and serve warm.
- Enjoy!

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!!

to Everyone Celebrating
their Birthday in

NOVEMBER and DECEMBER!



Special Happy Birthday to: Gary Pontician on November 10th,
Sandy Green on November 13th and Dick Groller on December 3rd!!

Gary resides at:
Bethlehem North
2029 Westgate Drive,
Bethlehem 18017

Sandy resides at:
137 South Second Street, Apt.3
Coplay 18037

Dick resides at:
3308 N. Ruch Street
Whitehall 18052

God Bless You and Your Special Day!!!

NOVEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

NOVEMBER 2 – ALL SAINTS SUNDAY

Acolyte – Eli Tomecek
 Lector – Bill Gilfert
 Ushers – Bill Gilfert*, Roni Dech and
 Jim Dech
 Communion Assistant – Karen Haines

NOVEMBER 9

Acolyte – to be announced
 Lector – Cindy Zwetolitz
 Ushers – Bill Gilfert*, Roni Dech and
 Jim Dech

NOVEMBER 16

Acolyte – to be announced
 Lector – Renee Coyle
 Ushers – Bill Gilfert*, Roni Dech and
 Jim Dech

NOVEMBER 23 – CHRIST THE KING

Acolyte – Michael Ganser
 Lector – Sheila Yudt-Gower
 Ushers – Bill Gilfert*, Roni Dech and
 Jim Dech
 Communion Assistant – Joe Danner

NOVEMBER 30 – ADVENT I

Acolyte – to be announced
 Lector – Suzette Terfinko
 Ushers – Bill Gilfert*, Roni Dech and
 Jim Dech



HAPPY HOLIDAYS!

DECEMBER VOLUNTEER SCHEDULES

DECEMBER 7 – ADVENT II

Acolyte – Eli Tomecek
 Lector – Joe Danner
 Ushers – Greg Miller*, Gayle Ganser
 and Karen Haines
 Communion Assistant – Louise Hash

DECEMBER 14 – ADVENT III

Acolyte – to be announced
 Lector – Jeremy Snyder
 Ushers – Greg Miller*, Gayle Ganser
 and Karen Haines

DECEMBER 21 – ADVENT IV

Acolyte – to be announced
 Lector – Pam Bradley
 Ushers – Greg Miller*, Gayle Ganser
 and Karen Haines

DECEMBER 24 – CHRISTMAS EVE

Acolyte – Michael Ganser
 Lector – Sheila Yudt-Gower
 Ushers – Greg Miller*, Gayle Ganser
 and Karen Haines
 Communion Assistant – Louise Hash

DECEMBER 28

Acolyte – to be announced
 Lector – Sandy Tapler
 Ushers – Greg Miller*, Gayle Ganser
 and Karen Haines



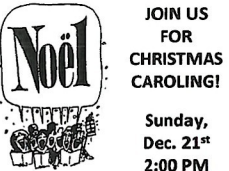
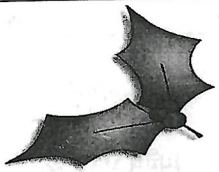
Calendar for November 2025



Turn your clocks **BACK** one hour
on **Saturday night, November 1st!**

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			THANKSGIVING FILLING SALE PICK-UP ON SATURDAY, 22 nd NOON to 2 PM			1 * Daylight Saving Time ends *
2 ALL SAINTS SUNDAY 9:00 AM: Sunday School 10:30 AM: ALL SAINTS HOLY COMMUNION: Necrology remembrance of Loved Ones	3 6:30 PM: Evangelism Committee 7:00 PM: Social Media Committee 7:30 PM: Property Committee	4 VOTE! 7 AM – 8 PM: <i>St. John's hosts Copley 1st District Voters in Social Hall</i>	5 7:00 PM: 🎵 Senior Choir Rehearsal	6 7:00 PM: First Year Confirmation Class	7	8
9 VETERANS EMPHASIS 9:00 AM: Sunday School 10:30 AM: PENTECOST XXII WORSHIP SERVICE 11:45 PM: Worship and Music Committee	10 7:00 PM: Church Council	11 	12 7:00 PM: 🎵 Senior Choir Rehearsal	13 7:00 PM: First Year Confirmation Class	14 * Deadline for FILLING PRE-ORDERS *	15 10:00 AM: Volunteers help with filling preparation
16 PENTECOST XXVI 9:00 AM: Sunday School 10:30 AM: PENTECOST XXIII WORSHIP SERVICE	17	18 	19 7:00 PM: 🎵 Senior Choir Rehearsal	20 7:00 PM: First Year Confirmation Class	21	22 8:00 AM: Volunteers help assemble filling orders Noon – 2 PM: FILLING PICK-UP
23 Christ the King 9:00 AM: Sunday School 10:30 AM: CHRIST THE KING HOLY COMMUNION 7:00 PM: 59 th ANNUAL COPLAY COMMUNITY THANKSGIVING SERVICE and RECEPTION at REDEEMED CHRISTIAN CHURCH OF GOD	24 7:00 PM: Christian Education Committee	25 1:00 PM Volunteers help with filling preparation	26 (No Senior Choir Rehearsal)	27 Happy Thanksgiving 	28 8:00 AM: Volunteers help prepare and assemble filling orders	29
30 ADVENT I 9:00 AM: Sunday School 10:30 AM: ADVENT I WORKSHIP SERVICE: Advent Prophecy and Wreath: Change to LBW Setting One	===== Copley Community Thanksgiving Service at Redeemed Christian Church of God, Copley Sunday evening, November 23th, 7 PM =====					

Calendar for December 2025

SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	1 6:30 PM: Evangelism Committee 7:00 PM: Social Media Committee 7:30 PM: Property Committee	2	3 7:00 PM: Senior Choir Rehearsal	4 7:00 PM: First Year Confirmation Class	5	6
7 ADVENT II 9:00 AM: Sunday School Christmas Program rehearsal 10:30 AM: ADVENT II HOLY COMMUNION: Advent Prophecy and Wreath 11:45 AM: Christmas Sanctuary Decorating 11:45 AM: Worship and Music Committee	8 7:00 PM: Church Council	9	10 7:00 PM: Senior Choir Rehearsal	11 7:00 PM: First Year Confirmation Class	12	13 
14 ADVENT III 9:00 AM: Sunday School Christmas Program rehearsal 10:30 AM: ADVENT III WORSHIP SERVICE: Advent Prophecy and Wreath 11:30 AM: Annual Congregational Meeting — Part One	15	16	17 7:00 PM: Senior Choir Rehearsal	18 7:00 PM: First Year Confirmation Class	19	20
21 ADVENT IV 9:00 AM: Sunday School Christmas Program rehearsal 10:30 AM: ADVENT IV WORSHIP SERVICE: SUNDAY SCHOOL CHRISTMAS PROGRAM "Christmas Customs" 11:30 AM: Reception in social hall 2:00 PM: Meet at church for CHRISTMAS CAROLING	22 	23	24 Christmas Eve 7:00 PM: CANDLELIGHT CAROLS HOLY COMMUNION	25 	26	27
28 CHRISTMAS I * No Sunday School * 10:30 AM: CHRISTMAS I WORSHIP SERVICE: CHRISTMAS CAROL SING (congregational selections)	29	30 11:00 AM: Newsletter Volunteers Christmas Party	31 HAPPY AND SAFE NEW YEAR'S EVE! 			

Sunday School Christmas Program

"Christmas Customs"

Sunday, December 21st during Morning Worship

Christmas Eve Candlelight Carols Holy Communion

Wednesday, December 24 at 7:00 PM

